HUGE NEW INTERVIEW

SLEEPING WITH SIRENS

THE GROWING PAINS OF KELLIN

KERRANG!

HI, HOW ARE YOU?

INSIDE THE WEIRD AND WONDERFUL WORLD OF WEEZER

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEWS

CURSED EARTH

DON BROCO

CHELSEA WOLFE

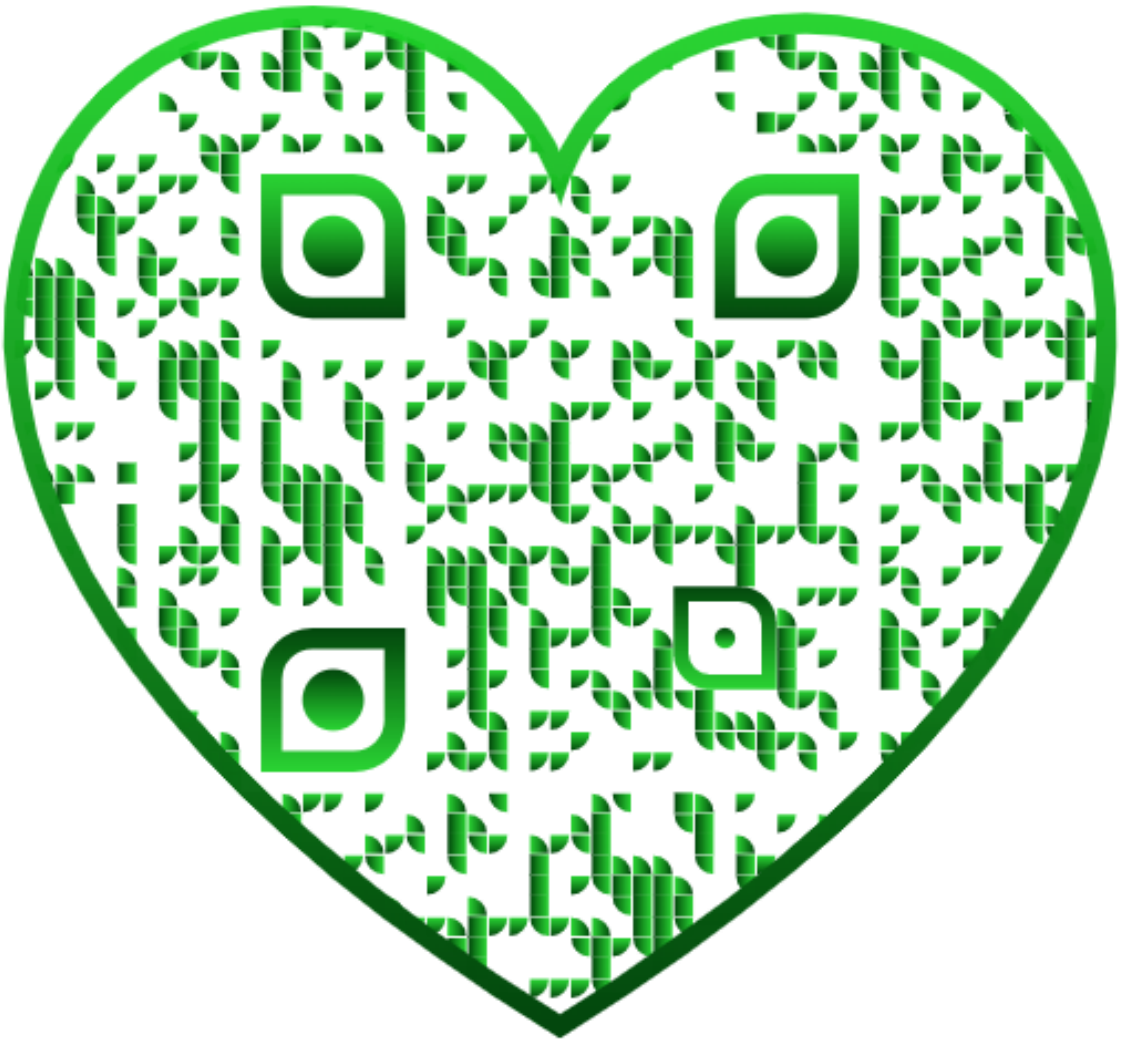
ROCK'S ESSENTIAL REVIEWS

AAA @ RIOT FEST

BLACK SABBATH

FOO FIGHTERS

£2.50
AUS: $7.50
KI1690
30.09.17
9 770262 662179 39>



SJM CONCERTS, DF AND MCD BY ASSOCIATION WITH KERRANG! PRESENT

KERRANG! TOUR 2017

THE AMITY AFFLICTION

BOSTON MANOR

VUKOVI CASEY

DECEMBER 2017

TUE 05 - Birmingham O2 Institute
WED 06 - Leeds University Stylus
THUR 07 - Glasgow O2 ABC
FRI 08 - Manchester O2 Ritz
SAT 09 - Newcastle Uni
MON 11 - Dublin Academy
TUE 12 - Cardiff University Y Plas
WED 13 - London O2 Forum Kentish Town

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Gigsandtours.com / Ticketmaster.co.uk

GET THREE MONTHS OF KERRANG! FOR JUST
£22.25
SUBSCRIBE ONLINE
KERRANG.IMBMSUBSCRIPTIONS.COM
CALL 01293 312213
(PROMO CODE: 3MONTHS)
*T&CS APPLY

CONTENTS

ISSUE 1690 SEPT 30, 2017

AS ANYONE who has worked at Kerrang! for any length of time will tell you, when sitting down to interview a band, you can never be *quite* sure exactly how things are going to pan out. Now, if you take that element of surprise and hold it under a Weezer-shaped magnifying glass, you've got this week's sometimes awkward, often bonkers, always illuminating cover feature with Rivers Cuomo and co. ahead of the cult band's return. Strap yourselves in…

Elsewhere this week, alongside brilliant coverage of Riot Fest, Chelsea Wolfe, Sleeping With Sirens and more, on page 10 you'll find the first details of the memorial show taking place in Los Angeles in celebration of the life of Chester Bennington. Already, the evening of October 27 is shaping up to be a very emotional and special affair.

Until next week, enjoy the issue…

SAM

COVER PHOTO: LINDSEY BYRNES **CONTENTS PHOTOS:** OLIVER HALFIN, GRIZZLEE MARTIN

SLEEPING WITH SIRENS p36

The knee-sliding culprits were identified far too easily

NEWS

ON THE COVER:

In what is probably yet another excuse to avoid making their new album, **Fall Out Boy** hit the stadium of their beloved Chicago Cubs **(p4)**. Elsewhere, **Don Broco** exclusively unveil their highly-anticipated new album **(p6)**, **Linkin Park** announce details of a star-studded **Chester Bennington** tribute show **(p10)**, and **Insane Clown Posse** fans descend on Washington **(p12)**.

FEATURES

ON THE COVER: Rock's weirdest heroes, **Weezer**, allow Kerrang! into their bizarre world – and it's one hell of a journey **(p20)**. After that, **Cursed Earth** take us down under and show off the brilliant Aussie music scene **(p28)**, **Sleeping With Sirens** man Kellin Quinn finds a newfound maturity **(p36)**, and **Chelsea Wolfe** reveals the "exorcism" of making her stunning new album **(p40)**.

POSTERS

Lovely snaps of **All Time Low**, **Evanescence**'s **Amy Lee**, **Enter Shikari** and more **(p30)**.

LIVES

ON THE COVER: In what might be the longest show performed in the history of the world, **Foo Fighters** take on the The O2 to celebrate the release of Concrete And Gold **(p46)**. Across the pond, K! head to Riot Fest to have our minds blown by **QOTSA**, **Nine Inch Nails** and more **(p48)**.

REVIEWS

ON THE COVER: **Black Sabbath** bow out in style with a stunning live DVD and vinyl box set **(p50)** and **Mastodon** release the perfect accompaniment to winter with their new EP **(p52)**.

GIGS

Deaf Havana's **James Veck-Gilodi** talks weird dreams, partying with **Mallory Knox** and new music ahead of Manchester's The British Sound Project **(p56)**.

FOO FIGHTERS p46

Nate Mendel did his page to reach for page 56 – his beloved gig preview

BIG PICTURE

TAKE ME OUT TO THE FALL GAME

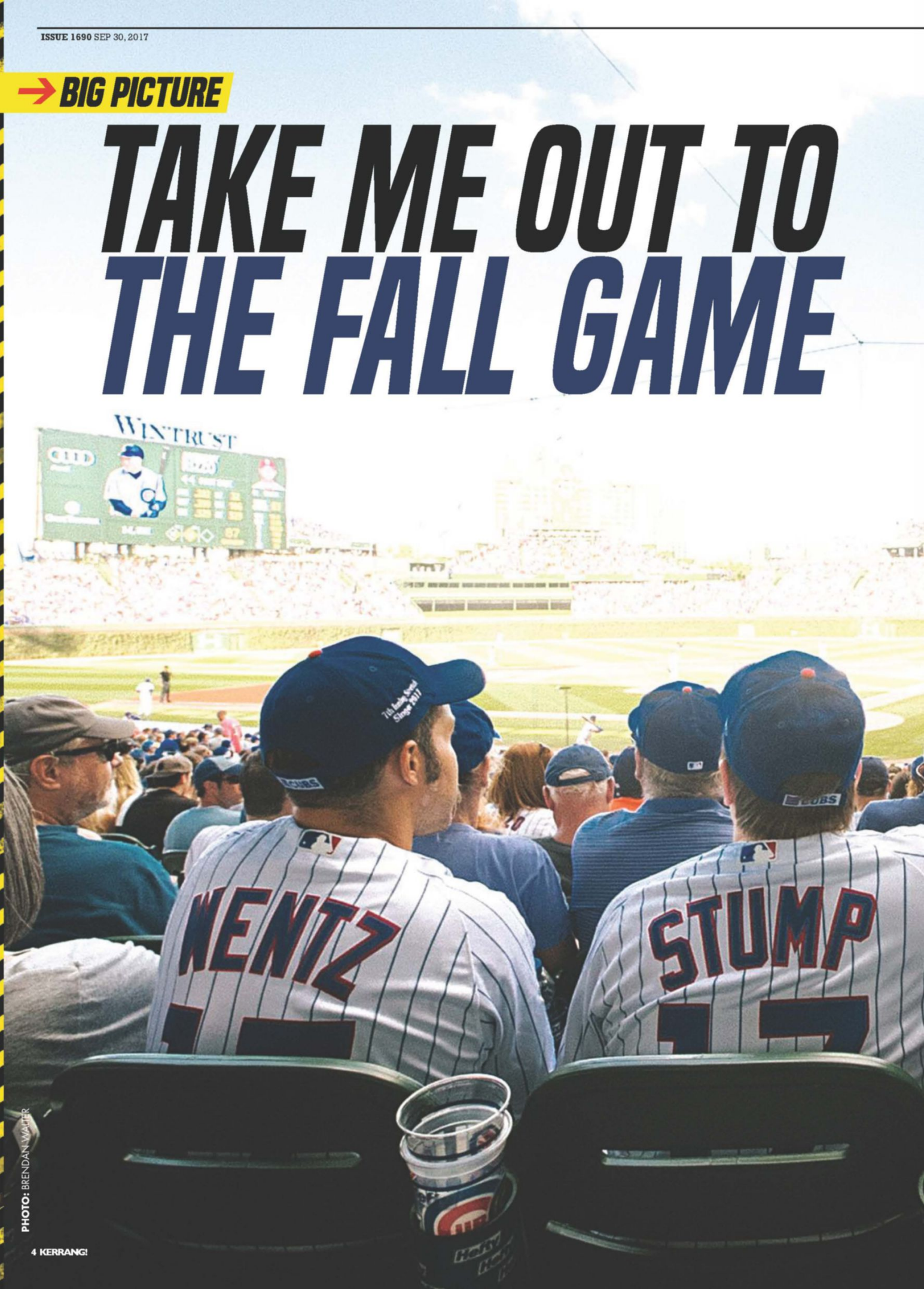


PHOTO: BRENDAN WALTER

HANG ABOUT, we recognise those names... Fall Out Boy last week did their worst-ever attempt at 'blending in' by not only donning personalised shirts as their hometown Chicago Cubs took on arch-rivals the St. Louis Cardinals – they even took hold of the microphone to serenade the crowd with a rendition of baseball-anthem Take Me Out To The Ball Game during the 'seventh-inning stretch'. (It's when everyone gets to their feet and attempts a vague impression of exercise in the hope of combatting the past few hours' worth of sitting down/hotdog-gorging, in case you were wondering.)

Shame that drummer Andy Hurley didn't get the jersey memo, though. There's always one letting the side down, eh...

After months in the wilderness, Don Broco finally found their way out the crop fields

BIG STORY

WHAT THE

AFTER THE RELEASE OF THREE BRILLIANT SINGLES, **DON BROCO** HAVE FINA
TECHNOLOGY. FRONTMAN **ROB DAMIANI** EXCLUSIVELY LIFTS THE LID ON

TECH?!

ALLY CONFIRMED DETAILS OF THEIR NEW RECORD,
N THE BAND'S "ABRASIVE" THIRD FULL-LENGTH...

DESPITE CRISS-CROSSING the world this year as support to State Champs in the U.S. and ONE OK ROCK in Japan, Don Broco have managed to find time to complete work on the follow-up to 2015's Automatic.

Technology is the name of the Bedford quartet's new album, and it's set for release on January 26, 2018. You'll have heard the singles Pretty, Everybody and the title-track already, and will soon hear new song Stay Ignorant (released October 6). You may have also noticed the band have moved away from the "easy-listening rock" style that informed their previous full-lengths. Those are frontman Rob Damiani's words, by the way – not ours.

In this exclusive announcement, we caught up with Rob just days after the four-piece put the finishing touches to their third album, their first for American indie home SharpTone, and demanded to know as much information as our brains could handle…

SO, ROB, YOU'VE FINALLY FINISHED YOUR NEW ALBUM. WHAT WAS THE DELAY?

ROB DAMIANI (*VOCALS*): "We had a self-imposed

WORDS: SIMON YOUNG

deadline of April 1, because we were flying to the States to do our first American shows. We knew we had to have everything wrapped up, because we were there for six weeks. We were busting a gut to get it finished – but we didn't! After that, we decided we didn't want to rush, so we wrote more songs and finished the album in August. The whole year has been a work in progress, touring the States and Japan and playing festivals this summer. It was nice to have the weekends to forget about it and play shows."

TECHNOLOGY HAS A PRETTY HEAVY RIFF. IS THAT INDICATIVE OF THE NEW ALBUM AS A WHOLE?

"I think there's a slightly more unified, quite abrasive feeling to this album. Automatic had a smoother sound to it. Technology has a very minimal, angular and heavy-as-fuck sound. For Don Broco, it's a very exciting step in a new direction that definitely takes what we've done in our past two records and mashes them together – then takes it a step further as well."

WAS THAT A CONSCIOUS DECISION, OR DID IT HAPPEN NATURALLY?

"With the last record, we set out to make a very smooth, almost easy-listening rock album! When we started writing this one, our natural reaction to everything was to do the opposite; we set out to make our heaviest record yet. It's tapping into a different realm of our sound, which we've hinted at throughout our career – our EPs, our albums – but we've taken that one side and really run with it on Technology. It's definitely going to be an exciting album for us to play live."

WHAT WERE YOU LISTENING TO THAT MAY HAVE FED INTO THE NEW ALBUM?

"One of our favourite bands of all time are Muse, and we take a lot of inspiration from them: the way they write really varied albums and take you on a crazy journey. One song which really excited us is called Survival [taken from 2012's The 2nd Law] – it was used during the London Olympics. From out of nowhere, it hits you with an absolute sledgehammer of a riff. I remember watching the Olympics and thinking, 'Oh my God, this is being broadcast around the world and there's the heaviest riff you've ever heard in your life.' It's amazing how they slipped a brutal, down-tuned beast of a riff into this Queen-influenced pop song. It felt so right. They'd tricked everyone and snuck it in. People were lapping it up. We've taken some of those cues on this album and any chance we had to throw in heavy riffs we could. Simon [Delaney, guitar] played me a riff recently that was so deranged and heavy it made me feel uncomfortable. The sooner we can get this album out and start playing it live, the better."

DOES THE POWER OF THE RIFF LIE IN THAT THICK BEARD OF HIS?

"I think it must. That's the only answer, because the beard wasn't as thick before, so that must be the most important source of his powers."

IS TECHNOLOGY A RECURRING THEME THROUGHOUT THE ALBUM?

"It's a theme that applies to some of the other songs without us even realising. The song Technology is about social media stealing your friends from you; friends that you'd not have an issue with when you're hanging out with them, but there's some power that social media has over them that turns them into narcissistic, loved-up show-offs. In a real social situation, you wouldn't be bothering someone to show them your face. I haven't forgotten what their faces look like; there's no reason to upload 30 selfies a day. I've got nothing against social media, but it can turn people into something they're not and they don't even realise it. It really got to me and it was something that really pissed me off. I'm not going to call them up and tell them what I think of it and hurt their feelings, so I found it easier to put it into a song and let out my annoyances through that."

Rob was fascinated by his own interview

WIN! MEET BROCO AT THEIR ALLY PALLY EPIC!

We're giving one lucky K! reader – plus a friend – the chance to attend Don Broco's Ally Pally show on November 11, meet the band *and* watch soundcheck! You'll even get a signed copy of Technology on its release, too! To be in with a chance of winning, email **Feedback@kerrang.com** with your name, age, location and the subject line 'Don Broco x Ally Pally'. Five runners-up will also take home a signed copy of Technology when it's released. Travel and accommodation is not included. Only winners will be contacted. Good luck!

TELL US ABOUT THE SONG ¥ (YEN)...

"We wrote that when we came back from supporting ONE OK ROCK. We had the best time ever in Japan, and it made me think about what's important. Yen means 'desire' as well as the name of the currency. It's hard not to let your desires lead your life decisions, even if it'll cripple you financially. It made me think about when you're putting your life on the line, being in a band and not having financial security. I thought about my friends who live in London and pay through the nose to afford rent, then at the same time will drop £200 on a night out! Younger people can't get on the property ladder or put money away for a pension. Sensible spending has gone out of the window, so people just live for the moment."

> ***"IT'S HARD NOT TO LET YOUR DESIRES LEAD YOUR LIFE DECISIONS..."***
> **ROB DAMIANI**

WERE THERE ANY OTHER CURRENT EVENTS OR GOINGS-ON IN THE WORLD THAT INFORMED YOUR LYRICS?

"There's a song called Porkies. I don't know if it's just me growing up or me feeling like I need to be more aware about what's going on, but I was thinking about how the term 'post-truth' kept popping up in the news, which, in short, is how politicians and people try to gain power by using emotive arguments rather than actual facts. People will believe what they want to believe and, unfortunately, with the rise of social media, they can share those views so easily on Facebook, write lengthy statements and back them up with articles. There's so much more shit to wade through online and it scares me. Porkies is probably one of the angriest songs on the album, almost questioning politicians' tactics and use of social media and information and how easy it is to spread lies. That's one of the songs that I felt most passionately about."

BREXIT IS A BIT OF A SHAMBLES, ISN'T IT?

"Well, one of my most personal songs on the record is Something To Drink. It's about a certain way I felt after going out in Bedford. Brexit was a weird one for me. Me and my friends pretty much all thought the same way about it – being pro-EU – but it caused a real divide amongst a lot of other people. You tend to hear the opinions of people who feel the same way, because they're the people you hang out with, but I was out in a busy bar and I heard conversations going on around me about Brexit. I was hearing opinions I completely disagreed with. One of the things that scared me most about Brexit was that when people were voting, they were voting emotionally. One of the emotional driving factors, I guess, was this underlying racism, which I'd never felt before. There are a lot of different cultures and groups of people living in Bedford; my dad's Italian and came to England when he was a young boy with his parents. There's also a strong Polish community here. I was hearing things in the bar that made me massively uncomfortable; they were saying they didn't want those people [in the country]. It really affected me. People love to get wasted and you can be best friends with someone you've just met and have a good time. We can all have a good time, so why can't people do *that* rather than focusing on each other's differences?"

TRUE THAT. FINALLY, YOU'RE PLAYING LONDON'S ALEXANDRA PALACE ON NOVEMBER 11. HOW ARE THE PREPARATIONS GOING?

"I'm pretty sure that the plan is to do a big tour when the album is out. The London gig is in a big old room, so we're going to look at going full-on with the production, and put on the biggest show we can. We'll make it an event!"

Technology** will be released through **SharpTone** on **January 26, 2018

SJM CONCERTS & DF
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH CODA PRESENT

THE PRODIGY

LIVE

14th Dec: Manchester O2 Apollo
15th Dec: Doncaster Dome
16th Dec: Plymouth Pavilions
18th Dec: Glasgow O2 Academy
19th Dec: Wolverhampton Civic Hall
21st Dec: London O2 Academy Brixton
22nd Dec: London O2 Academy Brixton (8PM - 3AM)
23rd Dec: London O2 Academy Brixton

TICKETS ON SALE AT 10AM ON 29.09.17

THEPRODIGY.COM
GIGSANDTOURS.COM
TICKETMASTER.CO.UK

Mike and Chester together onstage in 2015

ONE MORE NIGHT

SPECIAL GUESTS ANNOUNCED FOR **CHESTER BENNINGTON** MEMORIAL GIG

LINKIN PARK have confirmed details of their first live appearance since the death of Chester Bennington in July. Special guests for the show will include Bring Me The Horizon's Oli Sykes, Korn's Jonathan Davis, blink-182, plus members of Avenged Sevenfold and System Of A Down, for the October 27 event.

In an interview with U.S. radio station KROQ last week, Mike Shinoda discussed plans for the show at LA's 17,500-capacity Hollywood Bowl, and revealed Chester's family and bandmates were "deeply moved" by the reactions from Linkin Park's followers since the frontman's death.

"The fans have been incredible," said Mike. "I don't think we could have ever expected such an outpouring of love. There have been tributes all over the world for two straight months."

Mike also opened up about the decision to release One More Light as a single – as well as the fact that, on the day of Chester's death (July 20), the band were gearing up to release a different single, Talking To Myself.

"In our career we've had different songs that have connected with the fanbase in different ways," said Mike of the title-track from their seventh album, inspired by the death of a friend who'd worked at their record label, but which has taken on added significance since Chester's passing. "Fans everywhere were making these montages of images of Chester and images of themselves to [One More Light]… we realised it had struck a chord with them, so we wanted to let them know that we see that."

The band did so via the moving video for the song – directed by DJ Joe Hahn – which spans Linkin Park's 21-year career, as well as illustrating Chester's close connection with audiences.

Of the decision to play live again, Mike revealed that Rick Rubin, who co-produced 2007's Minutes To Midnight and 2012's Living Things, was instrumental in him, guitarist Brad Delson, bassist Dave Farrell, drummer Rob Bourdon, and Joe stepping back onstage.

"He said, 'The fans want to see you – not because they want to see a show – but there's a cathartic experience that needs to happen, and I think it will inform what you guys are doing.'"

Despite suggesting there were varying levels of trepidation among the band's remaining members about the prospect of playing live, Mike confirmed that all five men were agreed that it was "definitely the thing that [they] want to do".

"It feels like the right way to celebrate Chester," he added.

"We're inviting some other friends," revealed Mike of the format for the show billed as 'Linkin Park & Friends – Celebrate Life In Honor Of Chester Bennington', which will see the band donate their performance fees to Music For Relief's One More Light Fund, set up in memory of the singer.

"It's going to be a rollercoaster of emotion."

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE LINKIN PARK & FRIENDS BENEFIT SHOW, GO TO LINKINPARK.COM

WORDS: JAMES HICKIE **PHOTO:** GETTY

THEY SAID WHAT?

"IF I GET ONE MORE FOLLOW/UNFOLLOW FROM SOME WEAK ASS VERIFIED NOBODY DJ I'M GOING TO SHIT IN YOUR STUPID ASS UNDERCUT"
AWSTEN KNIGHT, WATERPARKS

THE PARTY IS BACK ON!

Andrew W.K. has announced his first album in almost a decade. What's even more exciting is that the rocker/motivational speaker has suggested it will be similar in style to his 2001 debut, I Get Wet, which featured classic rabble-rousing anthem Party Hard. The as-yet-untitled album will drop on March 2, 2018.

ALBUM OF SOULS

Iron Maiden have announced a live record immortalising the metal legends' The Book Of Souls World Tour. Co-produced by bassist and founder **Steve Harris**, The Book Of Souls: Live Chapter will feature recordings from multiple shows on the two-year worldwide jaunt, and is released on November 17.

AEG PRESENTS & DHP FAMILY, IN COOPERATION WITH X-RAY & THIRTY CENTURY MANAGEMENT, PRESENT

MESSAGE INTERCEPTED FROM [redacted]
AS FOLLOWS:

enter:shikari

THE SPARK. TOUR OF EUROPE. WINTER 2017

LOWER THAN ATLANTIS

ASTROIDBOYS

NOVEMBER

16 LIVERPOOL ECHO ARENA
17 CARDIFF MOTORPOINT ARENA
18 NOTTINGHAM MOTORPOINT ARENA
19 NEWCASTLE METRO RADIO ARENA
21 MANCHESTER VICTORIA WAREHOUSE
22 BRIGHTON CENTRE
24 BIRMINGHAM ARENA
25 LONDON ALEXANDRA PALACE

ENTERSHIKARI.COM/SHOWS AEGPRESENTS.CO.UK
AXS.COM TICKETMASTER.CO.UK ALTTICKETS.COM

NEW ALBUM THE SPARK OUT NOW

MESSAGE ENDS

does this mean
anything to you?

Ambush Reality PIAS play it again sam 30

THEY SAID WHAT?

"MAKES PB&J SANDWICH. EATS PB&J SANDWICH. HOUR LATER LOOKS DOWN AT SHOES. PB&J ON SHOES"

LAURA JANE GRACE, AGAINST ME!

THE PRETENDER

Eagle-eyed viewers of **Foo Fighters**' appearance on James Corden's Carpool Karaoke may have noticed something interesting about **Chris Shiflett**. In an earlier interview, Chris admitted he was "faking [his] way through," because he doesn't know any of the band's lyrics. So how did he avoid embarrassment? By secretly Googling them like a champ. Unfortunately for him, his eyewear gave the game away – with various shots showing his phone reflected in the lenses. "That's what sunglasses are for," he later joked on Twitter.

MEAN MACHINES

Robb Flynn and **Machine Head** have confirmed they will return in 2018 with a brand-new album, Catharsis. The California thrashers' ninth studio album – recorded in the band's hometown of Oakland – is due to arrive in January, alongside supporting U.S. tour dates. "It's time for Machine Head to go melt some faces!" promises Robb, in a statement that will have health and safety officers twitching.

Juggalos protest their 'gang' status in Washington

NOT CLOWNING AROUND

WHY **INSANE CLOWN POSSE**'S MARCH OF THE **JUGGALOS** WAS NO LAUGHING MATTER

WORDS: JAMES HICKIE **PHOTO:** GETTY

AS YOU'RE no doubt already aware, on Saturday, September 16, some 3,000 Insane Clown Posse fans marched on Washington. What's perhaps less well-documented, as people race to make easy jokes, is exactly *why* the Juggalos, as they're affectionately known, travelled from across the U.S. to descend upon the country's capital.

In short, it's because they were protesting the FBI's clarification of them as a "loosely-organised hybrid gang" as part of their 2011 National Gang Threat Assessment, which suggested, "Many Juggalos subsets exhibit gang-like behaviour and engage in criminal activity and violence."

It's a classification that's had very real repercussions for Juggalos – from increased police scrutiny (including fans being pulled over because they've got the Detroit rap duo's 'hatchetman' logo – in fact the symbol of Psychopathic Records and its artists) to losing jobs as a result of employers becoming aware of their musical affiliation.

While the music of Shaggy 2 Dope and Violent J – who play their first UK tour in 14 years in November – is met with derision in some quarters, and the sight of hordes of people in clown make-up might be hard to take seriously, the point they're making is: the behaviour of isolated individuals shouldn't be used to caricature an entire fanbase. Many clearly agree, too, as the march far outnumbered that of the pro-Trump rally happening less than a mile away on the same weekend.

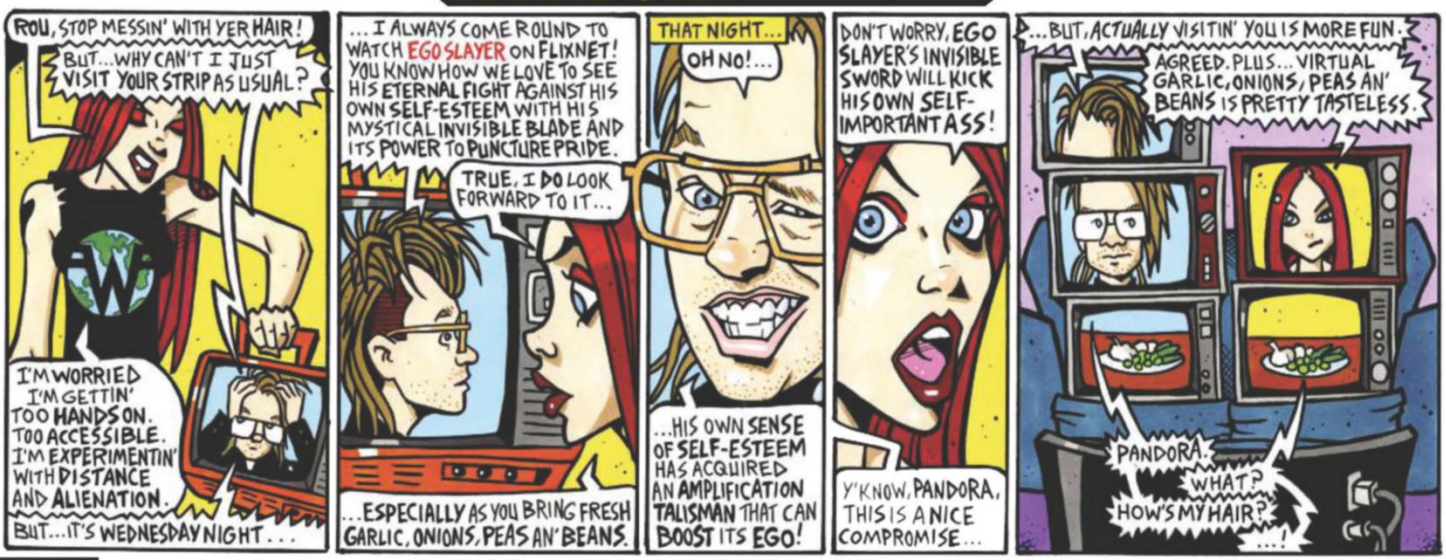
JUGGALOS HAVE BEEN LABELLED A 'GANG'

Of course, these lazy labels and condensing of falsehoods and half-truths are nothing new. In the aftermath of the 1999 massacre at Columbine High School, the media clamoured to suggest the actions of the shooters, Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris, could be attributed to them listening to Marilyn Manson. Despite the fact, as it turned out, neither liked Manson's music, the shock rocker and his actual fans were demonised for years after the event.

So what can be done? In the case of the Juggalos it's all about clearing their collective name. A number of them (and the band themselves) are already doing so, having secured the services of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Insane Clown Posse's native Michigan. Yet a wider shift in attitudes, to see a change in the often dangerous, divisive labelling of alternative cultures is crucial.

The fight – peacefully fought, of course – continues.

PANDORA BY RAY ZELL Rayzell.com



STONE SOUR

WITH VERY SPECIAL GUEST

THE PRETTY RECKLESS

UK TOUR 2017

29 NOV
BIRMINGHAM BARCLAYCARD ARENA

30 NOV
LEEDS FIRST DIRECT ARENA

01 DEC
BRIGHTON CENTRE

04 DEC
LONDON O2 ACADEMY BRIXTON

05 DEC
CARDIFF MOTORPOINT ARENA

EXTRA DATE ADDED DUE TO DEMAND
06 DEC
LONDON O2 ACADEMY BRIXTON

08 DEC
GLASGOW THE SSE HYDRO

NEW ALBUM HYDROGRAD OUT NOW

LIVENATION.CO.UK
TICKETMASTER.CO.UK

A LIVE NATION PRESENTATION BY ARRANGEMENT WITH CAA

STONESOUR.COM

MOTIONLESS IN WHITE

THE GRAVEYARD SHIFT UK/EUROPE TOUR

PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS

CANE HILL

ICE NINE KILLS

2018 UK TOUR

THU	18	JANUARY	SOUTHAMPTON ENGINE ROOMS
FRI	19	JANUARY	BRISTOL O2 ACADEMY
SAT	20	JANUARY	LEEDS STYLUS
MON	22	JANUARY	GLASGOW THE GARAGE
TUE	23	JANUARY	NEWCASTLE RIVERSIDE
THU	25	JANUARY	LONDON KOKO
FRI	26	JANUARY	BIRMINGHAM O2 INSTITUTE
SAT	27	JANUARY	MANCHESTER O2 RITZ
SUN	28	JANUARY	NORWICH THE WATERFRONT

NEW ALBUM GRAVEYARD SHIFT OUT NOW

LIVENATION.CO.UK | TICKETMASTER.CO.UK
MOTIONLESSINWHITE.NET

A LIVE NATION & FRIENDS PRESENTATION IN ASSOCIATION WITH UTA

FIVE FINGER DEATH PUNCH

PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS

IN FLAMES

AND

OF MICE & MEN

SUN 17 DEC BIRMINGHAM BARCLAYCARD ARENA
MON 18 DEC GLASGOW THE SSE HYDRO ARENA
WED 20 DEC LEEDS FIRST DIRECT ARENA
THU 21 DEC LONDON THE SSE ARENA WEMBLEY

LIVENATION.CO.UK | TICKETMASTER.CO.UK
FIVEFINGERDEATHPUNCH.COM | INFLAMES.COM | OFMICEANDMENOFFICIAL.COM

E7M

A LIVE NATION PRESENTATION BY ARRANGEMENT WITH UNITED TALENT AGENCY & ITB

Join My Live Nation for exclusive benefits. Go to livenation.co.uk/register

(L – R:) Benji Inkley (vocals/guitar), Jake Greenway (drums), Tim Malkin (guitar/keys), Ciaran Scanlon (bass), Paul Howells (guitar)

YOUR FAVOURITE NEW BAND

FIZZY BLOOD

FOR FANS OF: QUEENS OF THE STONE AGE, REUBEN, SLAVES

TAKE A BREATH AND KEEP TELLING YOURSELF THAT THERE'S NOTHING CREEPY ABOUT MANNEQUINS. RIGHT, WHO ARE THIS LOT?

This is Leeds quintet Fizzy Blood, who seem to have a thing about mannequins. So much so they put a bunch of them on the cover of their recent single, Pawn – a Kerrang.com premiere, no less. So what's the deal, lads? "We were looking for somewhere quirky to take photos and out of the blue, we found this… graveyard," says frontman Benji Inkley. "There were silos full of severed, faceless heads, piles of limbs and giant tiger spiders running everywhere."

WELL, THAT'S WEIRD. THE NAME FIZZY BLOOD RINGS A BELL…

The band have spent serious hours on the M1 and M62, spreading the good word of their psych-rock gospel, so there's a good chance they've already blown the roof off your local venue.

And if you're a fan of Jamie Lenman, you'll know that it's the name of a song from his 2013 album, Muscle Memory. "I've been listening to Jamie for years," says Benji. "I was a massive Reuben fan. In my earlier songwriting days, I found myself mimicking subtle things that they did and sticking them in my own songs."

"THERE WERE PILES OF LIMBS EVERYWHERE!"

PULLED APART BY HORSES, DINOSAUR PILE-UP, HAWK EYES AND NOW THIS LOT. WHAT ARE THE SUITS AT LEEDS COUNCIL PUTTING IN THE WATER?

With an ear for a tasty, twisty riff and choruses that could house a legion of earworms, Fizzy Blood appear to get their powers from the same sonic cup as their West Yorkshire contemporaries. But a nod must go to the city's independent venues. "Lots of bands have nothing but good things to say about Brudenell Social Club, and there are venues catering for every type of music, every night of the week," says Benji. "It's pretty simple, really: give bands a platform to play and they will come."

WHAT DOES THE REST OF 2017 HOLD FOR THE BLOOD, THEN?

Tours with Arcane Roots and Dinosaur Pile-Up are planned, as well as an appearance at Jamie Lenman's festival Lenmania – yep, him again – in London's The Dome on November 11. And while Benji's playing his cards close to his chest, he suggests that there are behind-the-scenes goings-on in between stints in the van. "After the Arcane Roots tour finishes, we're going back into the studio," says the frontman. "Then we'll rendezvous with Dinosaur Pile-Up and announce a few more surprises. Everything's coming up Milhouse." Sweet, sweet riffs and ending our chat with a reference to The Simpsons. What's not to love?

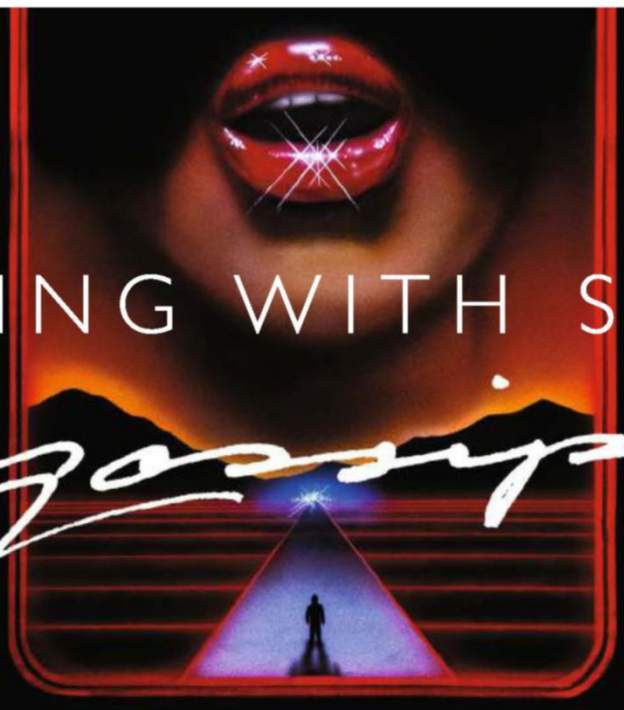
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

WHAT:
A 10-legged riff machine from Leeds.
HEAR:
Their Summer Of Luv EP, which is out now.
MORE INFO:
Sure. Point your browser here: Fizzyblood.officialstore.co.uk
CHECK OUT:
The band's beast of a Spotify playlist. Search for 'Fizzy Blood', obviously…

WORDS: SIMON YOUNG **PHOTO:** TOM MARTIN

DEBUT EP AVAILABLE SEPTEMBER 29

Spotify iTunes YouTube MUSIC
Google Play pandora



SLEEPING WITH SIRENS

Gossip

THE NEW ALBUM
IN STORES 22 SEPTEMBER

FEATURING THE TRACKS
LEGENDS, EMPIRE TO ASHES, CHEERS & TROUBLE

SLEEPINGWITHSIRENS.NET

Get it on iTunes

WB RECORDS

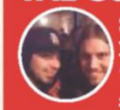
KERRANG! ROCK CHART

YEP, **ARCHITECTS** ARE STILL EMBEDDED IN OUR BRAINS. CAN THE NEW **FOB** TUNE CHANGE THAT NEXT WEEK?

	WEEKS ON CHART	HIGHEST POSITION	ARTIST	TITLE
1	3	1	ARCHITECTS	DOOMSDAY
2	1	2	FALL OUT BOY	THE LAST OF THE REAL ONES
3	2	3	FOO FIGHTERS	THE LINE
4	5	1	MARMOZETS	PLAY
5	1	5	THE XCERTS	DAYDREAM
6	1	6	ENTER SHIKARI	RABBLE ROUSER
7	3	3	NECK DEEP	DON'T WAIT (FEAT. SAM CARTER)
8	4	7	PVRIS	NOLA 1
9	2	5	GREEN DAY	TOO DUMB TO DIE
10	3	3	QUEENS OF THE STONE AGE	FEET DON'T FAIL ME
11	6	7	WATERPARKS	21 QUESTIONS
12	2	12	THE USED	OVER AND OVER AGAIN
13	1	13	NOTHING BUT THIEVES	GET BETTER
14	2	14	ELECTRIC WIZARD	SEE YOU IN HELL
15	4	14	WITH CONFIDENCE	HERE FOR NOTHING
16	1	16	KNUCKLE PUCK	DOUBLE HELIX
17	5	7	WEEZER	MEXICAN FENDER
18	4	2	WHILE SHE SLEEPS	STEAL THE SUN
19	1	19	STRAY FROM THE PATH	THE OPENING MOVE
20	5	1	BRAND NEW	CAN'T GET IT OUT

STAFF PICK!

OVER AND OVER AGAIN
THE USED



STU GARNEYS, DESIGNER

"It's been a while since we've heard any new music from The Used, but this track really proves they're still capable of producing top-quality work. The new album will rule."

DID YOU KNOW?

THE LAST OF THE REAL ONES
FALL OUT BOY

The latest video from Chicago's finest export features those pesky llamas again, and this time they're beating the living hell out of Pete Wentz with a shovel. We have it under good authority that he's fine, so don't worry. Fun fact, though: rapper Jaden Smith is credited as being a llama wrangler....

INSIDE THE SONG...

ROU REYNOLDS
ENTER SHIKARI

ROU, TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOUR LATEST TUNE, RABBLE ROUSER...

"Rabble Rouser is a song that celebrates what we do, that celebrates the intensity of a live show and the human connection that live music enables. The track also spits fury at those artists who chose to use their platform to create further disconnect, amplifying the divide between performer and audience."

DID YOU KNOW?

DOUBLE HELIX
KNUCKLE PUCK

Taken from new album, Shapeshifter, this is Knuckle Puck personified. However, it could've sounded very different. They weren't happy with the recording process, so they changed producer for the better.

STAFF PICK!

MEXICAN FENDER
WEEZER

PAUL TRAVERS, WRITER

"Winter might have us in its sights, but Weezer are always capable of bringing the sunshine. And this is Summer Nights with less Grease and more rollicking Def Leppard riffs."

STAFF PICK!

GET BETTER
NOTHING BUT THIEVES

DAN SLESSOR, WRITER

"The chorus is like having a barn dropped on your head. They've nailed it with this little anthem."

STAFF PICK!

SEE YOU IN HELL
ELECTRIC WIZARD

NICK RUSKELL, ASSOCIATE EDITOR

"Electric Wizard there: always different, always the same. This long-awaited return from Dorset's sinister doom cult may be less overtly aggressive than the naked misanthropy of 2014's Time To Die album, but the Sabbathian riffs and sleazy grooves still carry with them a feeling of murderous grindhouse sleaze. The riff lollops along, spinning a flickknife in its dirty hands, before the glorious chorus gets right in your face and breathes booze and weed all over you. And if that sounds like your bag, you're a sick puppy, and we like you."

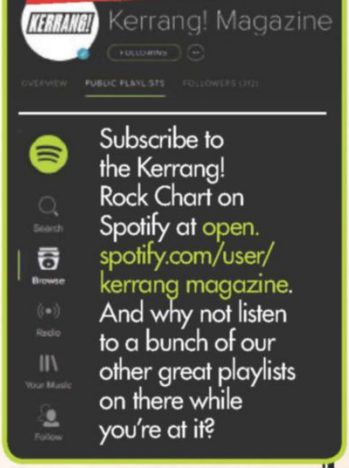
INSIDE THE SONG...

MURRAY MACLEOD
THE XCERTS

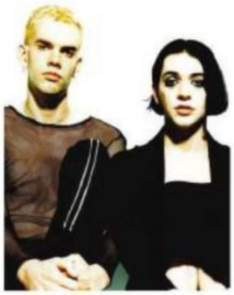
WHAT'S DAYDREAM ABOUT MURRAY?

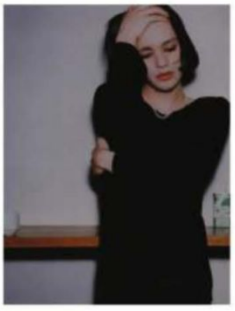
"Daydream was the first song we wrote for the new record and the lightbulb moment in regards to the '80s influence that inhabits it. Musically, it was very much inspired by Bruce Springsteen, Rick Springfield and Cheap Trick. It's about not taking loved ones for granted."

SUBSCRIBE!



Subscribe to the Kerrang! Rock Chart on Spotify at open.spotify.com/user/kerrang magazine. And why not listen to a bunch of our other great playlists on there while you're at it?





20 YEARS OF
PLACEBO

PLUS GUESTS
HUSKY LOOPS

EDINBURGH USHER HALL. 0[SOLD OUT]7
DUNDEE CAIRD HALL. 08.10.17
DONCASTER DOME. 10.10.17
BLACKPOOL EMPRESS BALLROOM. 11.10.17
READING RIVERMEAD. 13.10.17
CARDIFF MOTORPOINT ARENA. 14.10.17
PORTSMOUTH GUILDHALL. 16.10.17
SWINDON OASIS. 17.10.17
PLYMOUTH PAVILIONS. 20.10.17
WOLVERHAMPTON CIVIC HALL. 21.10.17
LONDON O2 ACADEMY BRIXTON. 2[SOLD OUT]7

EXTRA DATE ADDED DUE TO PHENOMENAL DEMAND!

LONDON O2 ACADEMY BRIXTON. 24.10.17

GIGSANDTOURS.COM TICKETMASTER.CO.UK

THE ALBUM 'A PLACE FOR US TO DREAM - 20 YEARS OF PLACEBO' OUT NOW

PRESENTED BY SJM CONCERTS, METROPOLIS MUSIC, DF & GCE BY ARRANGEMENT WITH ITB & RIVERMAN

★ ★ ★ THE GET HAPPY TOUR PRESENTS ★ ★ ★

THE AMAZING & HANDSOME

BOWLING FOR SOUP

★ PLAYING 'DRUNK ENOUGH TO DANCE' IN ITS ENTIRETY & MUCH MORE ★

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ PLUS VERY SPECIAL GUESTS ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

THE AQUABATS!

★ TOURING THE UK FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 5 YEARS!!! ★

& ARMY OF FRESHMEN

20TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR!

GOLDENVOICE AND DF BY ARRANGEMENT WITH PRIMARY TALENT INTERNATIONAL PRESENTS

- FEBRUARY 2018 -

FRIDAY 9TH FEB
GLASGOW O2 ACADEMY

SATURDAY 10TH FEB
NEWCASTLE O2 ACADEMY

SUNDAY 11TH FEB
SHEFFIELD O2 ACADEMY

MONDAY 12TH FEB
NOTTINGHAM ROCK CITY

TUESDAY 13TH FEB
BIRMINGHAM O2 ACADEMY

WEDNESDAY 14TH FEB
NORWICH UEA

THURSDAY 15TH FEB
MANCHESTER O2 APOLLO

FRIDAY 16TH FEB
CARDIFF MOTORPOINT ARENA

SATURDAY 17TH FEB
LONDON O2 ACADEMY BRIXTON

AXS.COM ★ TICKETMASTER.CO.UK

★ BOWLINGFORSOUP.COM ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ #GETHAPPY2018 ★

K!OMMUNITY

IT'S YOUR PAGE, YOUR LIFE!

KING FOR A DAY

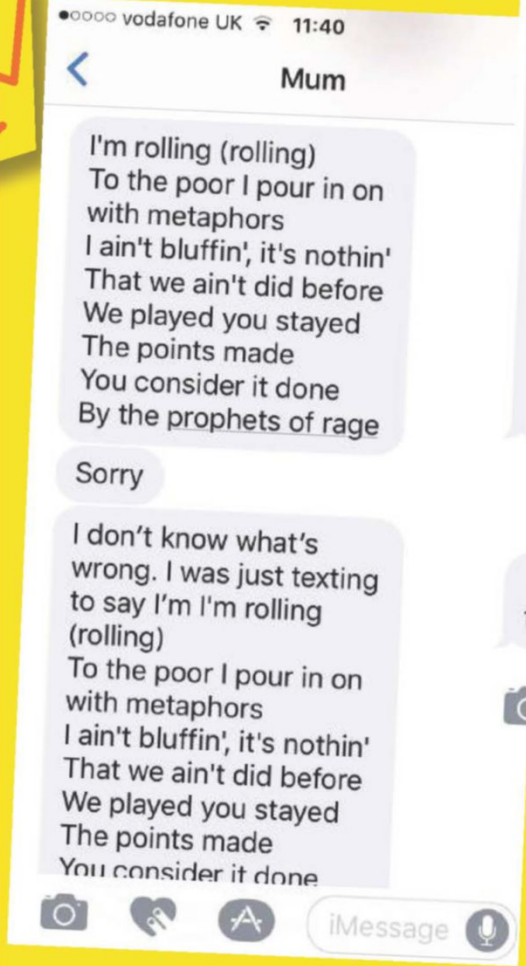
"Yo! I drew Awsten Knight," says **Morven**. *"Hope ya like!" We really do, Morven. Especially Awsten's hamster cheeks. Is that where he stores his ability to write the catchiest pop-rock tunes in the universe? Must be.*

THE PEONY AND THE PANIC

"This will be my seventh or eighth feature in Kerrang!," explains **@miaisawstr**. *"Here's more Neck Deep art." That's very presumptuous, Mia. Who's to say we're going to keep printing your work? Then again, you allowed us to come up with this quite frankly FANTASTIC flower/Neck Deep pun. So thank you.*

THE CALORIFIC HEART

"Probably the best birthday cake ever!" states **@elliephantom**. *We're inclined to agree with you there, Ellie. Even if it seems as though The Stranger is judging us here, going, 'Do you REALLY need another slice of cake, Kerrang!?" We're still carrying some excess holiday weight, Stranger. Don't be so mean :(*



WINNER!

TOM MOR-HELLO!

"My mum always texts on her way home, so I turned 'on way' into a shortcut for Prophets Of Rage lyrics!" explains **@McfilthJr**. *Incredible work. You are an evil genius, and we applaud you. In fact, your sneakiness has won you a signed Prophets Of Rage guitar! Not that we condone bad behaviour or anything, but… we totally do. Email Feedback@kerrang.com to claim your prize!*

BOWLING FOR WHOOP

"Met Jaret Reddick at his Heartache To Hilarity tour!" says **Owen**. *"He was super-awesome and super-nice… he posed with my album I put together and he played a fantastic set." This is nice! It was good of Jaret to brush his hair for the occasion, too.*

THREE CHEERS FOR STONE REVENGE

Here's **@concert endeav**'s *ace Gerard Way art, and an alternative interpretation of MCR's debut album, I Brought You My Boulders, You Brought Me Your Love. Wait – that's not the name of the record? Oh, crap.*

NEXT WEEK

WIN!

£200 TO SPEND AT DEATH WISH CLOTHING!

Here's what we'd like to see from you this week! 1) A drawing of our cover stars, Weezer, riding camels. 2) A selfie with a rockstar of your choice where one of you is doing The Worm dance. 3) A picture of Winston McCall made out of spinach. The lucky winner will get a £200 voucher to spend at Deathwishclothing.co! On top of that, the brand – who have just dropped a brand-new range – are offering 10% for all K! readers using the code Insta666. Get on it!

TAG YOUR STUFF WITH #KOMMUNITY

Show us via Twitter (@KerrangMagazine), Instagram (kerrangmagazine_) or feedback@kerrang.com!

AN SJM CONCERTS, DF & MDDN PRESENTATION BY ARRANGEMENT WITH UNITED TALENT AGENCY

Good Charlotte

PLUS

AGAINST THE CURRENT

MILK TEETH • nothing,nowhere.

SOLD OUT NOV
SOUTHAMPTON O2 GUILDHALL

SOLD OUT OV
NOTTINGHAM ROCK CITY

THU 30 NOV
GLASGOW BARROWLAND

FRI 01 DEC
BIRMINGHAM O2 ACADEMY

SOLD OUT EC
MANCHESTER ACADEMY

SUN 03 DEC
LONDON O2 ACADEMY BRIXTON

GOODCHARLOTTE.COM

MDDN

CROSSTOWN CONCERTS PRESENTS

SUNDAY 28 JANUARY 2018 — DUBLIN WHELANS
WEDNESDAY 31 JANUARY 2018 — BRISTOL SWX
FRIDAY 02 FEBRUARY 2018 — MANCHESTER THE RITZ
MONDAY 29 JANUARY 2018 — BELFAST LIMELIGHT
THURSDAY 01 FEBRUARY 2018 — GLASGOW SWG3
SATURDAY 03 FEBRUARY 2018 — LONDON O2 SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM
TICKETMASTER.CO.UK - SEETICKETS.COM - GIGANTIC.COM

A CROSSTOWN CONCERTS AND FRIENDS PRESENTATION BY ARRANGEMENT WITH UNITED TALENT AGENCY

THE FRONT BOTTOMS

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

THE SMITH STREET BAND

BRICK+MORTAR

09.02.18	MANCHESTER ALBERT HALL	14.02.18	BELFAST MANDELA HALL	25.02.18	NORWICH THE WATERFRONT
10.02.18	GLASGOW BARROWLAND	16.02.18	SHEFFIELD O2 ACADEMY	26.02.18	BIRMINGHAM O2 INSTITUTE
11.02.18	NEWCASTLE O2 ACADEMY	17.02.18	NOTTINGHAM ROCK CITY	27.02.18	BRISTOL O2 ACADEMY
13.02.18	DUBLIN VICAR STREET	24.02.18	PORTSMOUTH PYRAMIDS	28.02.18	LONDON ROUNDHOUSE

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM
SEETICKETS.COM - GIGANTIC.COM - ROUNDHOUSE.ORG.UK
GIGSANDTOURS.COM - GIGSINSCOTLAND.COM

A CROSSTOWN CONCERTS & FRIENDS PRESENTATION BY ARRANGEMENT WITH PRIMARY TALENT INTERNATIONAL

REQUIEM ADREAM

TWO AND A BIT DECADES INTO THEIR STORIED CAREER, ALT.ROCK TITANS WEEZER REMAIN THE WEIRDEST, MOST BELOVED CULT IN MUSIC. AND WITH NEW ALBUM PACIFIC DAYDREAM, THEY'RE ONLY GETTING WEIRDER. KERRANG! LAYS THEM DOWN ON THE COUCH AND PREPARES FOR A JOURNEY INTO THEIR SUBCONSCIOUS...

WORDS: JAMES McMAHON **PHOTOS:** LINDSEY BYRNES

weezer
FOR

=w=: (clockwise from top) Patrick Wilson, Brian Bell, Rivers Cuomo, Scott Shriner

Do you want to know the thing that's truly amazing about Weezer? More than the LA band's 25-year quest to write the perfect melodic rock song, frequently (or at least arguably) nailing that goal countless times along the way? More than the 17 million albums sold worldwide, or being the great rock cult that unites the likes of Biffy Clyro and Deftones, Saves The Day and Dashboard Confessional, Manchester Orchestra and Bayside (all of whom have covered their songs – as have '90s Mmmbop stars Hanson, you may be as surprised as us to learn)? More so, even, than their peerless ability to take any old image – a jumping dog, Hurley from telly epic Lost, a weird monster thing – stick a Weezer logo on it, and pass it off as an album sleeve?

No, the thing that is truly amazing about Weezer is how the four men who comprise the band – vocalist and guitarist Rivers Cuomo and drummer Pat Wilson since the very beginning in 1992, guitarist Brian Bell a year after that, bassist Scott Shriner since 2001 – are perhaps the four weirdest human beings who have ever existed.

And yet *somehow*, they found each other.

Today wearing a butcher's-blade sharp suit (missing the Caribbean cool vibe the other members seem to have agreed on), Brian is perhaps the most handsome man who ever lived, yet carries himself with a poise that comparably makes Napoleon Dynamite resemble Jay-Z. Pat just smiles, *all the time*, like someone has fed MDMA to a Muppet. Scott, meanwhile, swaggers like the Marlboro Man and refuses to sit down for the first 10 minutes of our interview, replacing one toothpick with another with another with another, until our time together is up. But yet it is Rivers – the reluctant leader, raised in an ashram in Pomfret, Connecticut, run by yogi master Satchidananda Saraswati, with a jazz drummer dad (Cuomo Snr plays on saxophonist Wayne Shorter's 1971 album, Odyssey Of Iska) and a mum who named him 'Rivers' because he was born between the East and Hudson rivers in Manhattan – who is The King Of Weird.

All of the above is a compliment, by the way.

Within five minutes of meeting him today, at a photo studio on the east side of Los Angeles (Rivers: "I don't really like having my photo taken, I don't think clothes look very good on me"), the 47-year-old singer/guitarist/songwriter tells Kerrang! he's currently investing in a business in Memphis that is researching the ability to grow consciousness-free meat on plants. Essentially, a bush that grows burgers. Nothing that follows is any less bizarre. Much of it is peak *odd*.

"I was thinking about this piece of Chinese philosophy, about a daydream," says Rivers on the subject of new, forthcoming eighth album Pacific Daydream, talking, while at the same time making the very act of eating a vegan chocolate bar far more difficult than it really needs to be. "This guy wakes up from a dream about a butterfly, where the dream was so real that he can't figure out whether he's the guy dreaming of being a butterfly, or a butterfly dreaming about being a man…"

Right…

"And I was thinking, 'I want to make this album so vivid, where the listener isn't sure whether they're listening to Weezer, or if they're actually inside this Weezer world and they're imagining the listener.'"

Of course…

"The whole record is supposed to be an escape from painful and mundane reality, to the Weezer bar by the beach…"

That's a pretty appealing concept in these troubled times, we say. Enormous pause…

"Yeah."

You know those people you meet in life who don't feel the need to fill gaping silences with speech? Whose whole purpose in life appears to be to unnerve everyone else? Not that he's mean – he's a very lovely man – but if Rivers Cuomo suddenly announced he was the chairman of the secret society of those people who met and discussed ways to freak people out, you wouldn't be surprised. Except he'd never announce it. He'd just sit in silence freaking everyone out.

Strap yourself in. Things are about to get *weird*.

"THIS RECORD IS AN ESCAPE FROM REALITY, TO THE WEEZER BEACH BAR"

• RIVERS CUOMO •

Call us too literal, call it warming up, but since we've come to talk about an album called Pacific Daydream, we've begun by talking about dreams.

"Last night I dreamt that I was at a gas station-slash-convenience store," says Pat, with his best last-act-at-The-Comedy-Store drawl, "and somehow I'm expected to work there, and somehow I know the girl who works behind the register. So I go down the aisle, and I see a deer lying on the floor. It's not freaking out, it's not doing anything… It's just there waiting to heal itself. So I go in the back room, and some customers come in, and they give me some coolant. The sort for your vehicle. I go, 'I can just pour that down the sink,' and they go, 'Oh no, you have to dispose of that properly!'"

A long pause.

"What the fuck does that mean?"

The band laugh. All bar bassist Scott, who just looks like he might fight anyone who takes his toothpick away.

What are your dreams like, Rivers?

"I never remember them," he says. "Sometimes I tweet them, as if they actually happened, but I normally forget them. There was one where I was sitting at a bus stop, and some teenagers came up to me, and they were harassing me – picking on me… and I can't remember what happened then. I'd have to go back through my tweets. People loved that tweet, but I don't think they knew it was real…"

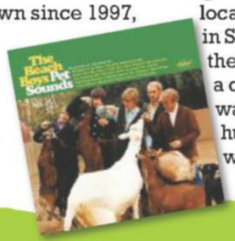
At this point a giant bin collection van drives past the studio. Brian Bell shouts "YEAH!" like he's cheering on his favourite sports team, and we honestly don't know what is going on.

There's not many bands Kerrang! would fly to LA to catch up with, 11 albums into their career. Sure, there are the megastars – Metallica and Green Day, Paramore and Fall Out Boy – but Weezer never came close, and in all likelihood never will, to bands like that in terms of commercial success. In pop culture, too, they never meant the same as any of those bands

A TO Z OF WEEZER

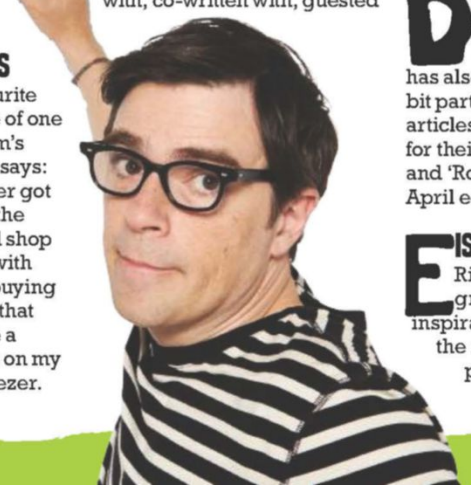
A IS FOR… ABSTINENCE

For two years in the mid-'00s, Rivers took a vow of sexual abstinence, before he married Kyoko Ito in June 2006 – a woman he'd known since 1997, meeting at one of his solo shows in Boston.



B IS FOR… BEACH BOYS

Rivers' favourite band – and the title of one of Pacific Daydream's best tracks. Rivers says: "Right when Weezer got together, I went to the local used record shop in Santa Monica with the intention of buying a classic album that was going to be a huge influence on my writing for Weezer. I narrowed it down to two. One was Led Zeppelin, the other Pet Sounds by the Beach Boys. I went with the latter." How different Weezer could have turned out, huh?



C IS FOR… CAMEOS

What follows is largely preposterous. Here are some acts Rivers has cameo-d with, co-written with, guested with onstage: Crazy Town, Cold, Mark Ronson, Sugar Ray, Adam Lambert, B.o.B, Katy Perry, Simple Plan, All Time Low, Panic! At The Disco, Steve Aoki, Charli XCX… and McBusted.

D IS FOR… DETAILS MAGAZINE

Somehow, Rivers has also found time to be a bit part-journo, penning the articles 'Life In The Fast Lane' for their January 1995 issue and 'Road Worries' for their April edition.

E IS FOR… EMINEM

Rivers' self-proclaimed greatest modern inspiration, giving props to the rapper's, "creativity, passion, inventiveness and playfulness…"

F IS FOR… FONZIE

The bit where the Fonz dances in the Happy Days-themed, Spike Jonze-directed video for Blue-era single Buddy Holly? That's about as good as the '90s got, right there.

G IS FOR… GOENKA, S.N.

Rivers practices Vipassana meditation (recommended to him by super-producer Rick Rubin, no less) and was a student of the famed Burmese-Indian teacher S.N. Goenka. Rivers has continued the late teacher's work, since 2009, teaching meditation to children.

Everything got a bit too much for poor Brian

H IS FOR... HOMIE

A Rivers side-project, with just the one official release (the song American Girls, from the soundtrack of 1998 film Meet The Deedles). Weezer fans are kinda obsessed with Homie, as it largely explains what Rivers was doing musically, in a rock sense, during the period he packed up and went to study Classical Composition at Harvard.

I IS FOR... INFERIORITY COMPLEX

Throughout Weezer's career, and for all their success, Rivers has never, ever, seemed happy with their standing. Despite selling millions of records with Blue, he said: "I thought my songs were really simplistic and silly, and I wanted to write complex, intense, beautiful music." You might attribute this to his later desire to study music at the prestigious Harvard University. Though that made him miserable, too.

J IS FOR... JINGLES

Founded in 1922, State Farm Insurance is an institution in the U.S. In 2011 Weezer were asked to record a version of the company's iconic jingle... and in the process, unearthed the lost truth that said jingle was written by a pre-fame Barry Manilow!

K IS FOR... KITTS, PETER

While attending E.O. Smith High School, Rivers changed his name to Peter Kitts (that surname being his stepfather's surname). Upon graduating, he returned to his original name.

L IS FOR... LEG EXTENSION

Rivers underwent surgery to extend his left leg to the same length as the right – by 44mm – in March of 1995. It felt like "having about seven arrows lodged into your leg bone," he said, probably through gritted teeth.

M IS FOR... MYKEL AND CARLI

In 1997, two sisters, Mykel Allan, 31, and Carli, 29, were killed, along with their younger sister, Trysta, in a car

mentioned prior. There'd be those that argue that the days they did matter are in the rearview mirror; check out the comedian Hari Kondabolu on Spotify, and his short, 'Weezer Broke My Heart', for a pretty funny argument on that point ("Weezer mosh-pits are just nerds bumping into each other and apologising").

But Weezer, like any band who *matter* to their fanbase, rather than just making sounds that they enjoy, are the band that refuse to die, that refuse to become irrelevant. With every new album, they continue to surprise and continue to evolve. Pacific Daydream owes more to twenty one pilots than it does Nirvana. Feels Like Summer could be the work of Tyler Joseph and Josh Dun, in fact. Get Right is like Santana trying their hand at alt.rock. Beach Boys, in a typically perverse move, is perhaps one of about 10 songs Weezer have written that doesn't sound like The Beach Boys. It's a record that is all over the place creatively, which is surely what they were pitching for. Sure, it's got the big singles – Mexican Fender is the sort of perfect pop-rock song Rivers stockpiles like deranged American survivalists horde ammunition – but if you're *that* Weezer fan who still wishes every record sounded like Pinkerton, you'll probably be disappointed.

Still, they'll add new fans. They'll replenish. And the next one will probably sound like Queen. Or Green Day. Or whatever. You really never know. Either way, Weezer continue to be one of the best, most adored, most respected, most innovative rock bands that, to be honest, not that many people actually like (but those who *do* like them more than anything, ever).

"I still write songs more or less like I used to," says Rivers, asked how the songwriting process – of which few would doubt he's one of modern rock's masters – has changed in the two and a half decades Weezer have existed. "Which is weird, because everything else in my life has changed so radically. I still pick up an acoustic guitar, or sit at the piano, come up with some chords, a riff, melodies; sometimes a lyric will just happen, sometimes I'll go to the stockpile of titles or stories I've written…"

He laughs.

"Now it's all in Google Sheets rather than notebooks… and I've written formulas."

Formulas?

"In Excel. Things that will help me identify what parts I've written might work when I'm finding parts to fit a song…"

Really?

"Yeah. Some of my new songs are like reporting, too," he continues. "Journalistic, really. I just write down

accident, returning from a Weezer show in Denver. They were presidents of the band's fan club. Four years earlier, the band had written a song for them, one of their finest works, the Blue-era B-side Mykel And Carli.

N IS FOR… NICKNAME

Ever wondered where the name Weezer comes from? It was Rivers' nickname as a kid, on account of his asthma.

O IS FOR… OTHER BANDS

Weezer like to keep busy. Patrick Wilson's side-project The Special Goodness have been going since 1996, Brian Bell has Space Twins (1993–2005) and The Relationship (2006)… even Scott Shriner released a single called Pretty (Watch The Shadow), under the name Shriners in 2012.

P IS FOR… PINKERTON

The band's second album, and maybe, the album that kickstarted the second wave of emo. Received poorly at the time by critics, and a commercial disappointment, it's now considered a classic.

Q IS FOR… QUEEN OF THE EARTH

Every big Weezer fan has a favourite rare, unreleased Weezer song, but the writer putting together this A-Z needed an entry for Q and so is putting his in here.

R IS FOR… ROCK OPERA

Rivers was once obsessed with the musicals Les Misérables (1980), the rock opera Jesus Christ Superstar (1970), and the operas Aida (1871) and Madama Butterfly (1904). He intended for a while that Weezer's second album would be a rock opera, dealing with his conflicted feelings about musical success, titled Songs From The Black Hole. That never happened, evidently, although most of the written songs are available in various forms across various compilations.

things that have happened. Not really how I feel, but, 'This is what I saw.' One of my big heroes is Ernest Hemingway, and he started out as a journalist; that's how he learned to write. A lot of people credit him with revolutionising fiction, by throwing out a lot of the subjectivity and reporting the facts as plainly and simply as possible."

You've always had this meta quality to your songs too. You've written *about* being in Weezer in your songs often. You can tell the band's story through song. The new album has that in songs like Beach Boys…

"Well, the album before last, [2014's] Everything Will Be Alright In The End, was very much like that. I kinda sketched out a story of mine and Weezer's lifetime – and it's a little bit fictionalised – but you end up with songs like Back To The Shack. That song was a real love letter to being in a band. That's very meta."

As a listener, some of those songs seemed quite sad. Like you were yearning for something lost…

Enormous pause. A gap in conversation so wide you could drive a tank through it.

"I don't know. I don't feel like I have the authority… the *right*… to tell someone the right emotion to feel. I have the barest understanding of what I'm doing! I feel like I'm putting these science experiments together and I don't really know what's happening."

Even after all these years?

"Maybe more so after all these years…" the singer replies, meekly.

"When you're young, you're full of drive," says Pat. "There is no internal debate, you just go with your instinct. You get a little older and you realise there's loads of different ways of looking at things, and I get even more confused…"

When Weezer were starting out, did you ever think about how the band would look, 25 years on?

Rivers speaks. "I remember thinking about that."

Pat shakes his head. Scott grinds his toothpick and Brian… well, who knows what's going on with Brian.

"It still feels to me like Weezer hasn't achieved the goal yet," says Rivers. "We're still fighting and we're still in the game, and it feels like we're getting bigger and bigger, but I've never felt like, 'Ta da! You've arrived!' We've never had a Number One album. I'm not sure what would make me feel like we'd achieved the goal, though. We were never as big as the biggest bands of our day, but then maybe that's why we're still at it…"

You must have had a Number One *somewhere*, even if it's just in, like, Iceland or something?

"Not that I know of. We're perpetually Number Two. We've never won the Super Bowl."

"I could always envision us being the size we are now," says Brian, joining the conversation. "When I came in, I remember thinking, 'We're going to be huge!' and they had a lot more doubt than I did."

"I would say no," admits Pat.

"I think I was of two minds at the beginning," says Rivers. "My realistic self thought we'd sell 70,000 records and get dropped and that'd be the end – 'It was fun, thank you.' But I grew up listening to KISS Alive! II [the band's 1977 second live album, and eighth record overall], and seeing the picture of the band inside with all the fire and on the back of ALIVE! I [from 1975] there's the audience with the KISS sign; that was sort of my vision of what it would be like to be a rockstar. And I don't think I've reached the point that really scratches that itch."

He continues.

"A few months ago, I was in Tokyo, and Coldplay were playing at the Tokyo Dome, so I went to see them – there were maybe 30,000 people there, they had this huge production, everyone was singing in unison, and I thought, 'Oh yeah, *that's* my dream! What have we been doing all these years?!'"

But think of it this way: so many of the bands you came up with aren't around anymore.

"It's true," nods Pat.

And surely the fanaticism of the Weezer fanbase makes up for not being the biggest band on the planet?

"I think we can have both," says Rivers.

Can a band ever hope to replicate that KISS photo in 2017, though, we say, at this point kind of feeling like this has stopped being an interview, and is now more an intervention to help make Rivers not feel like the past 25 years of his life has been spent underachieving. It's a completely different scene now.

"What about Muse?" says Scott.

So if you were the size of Muse, you'd be happy?

"I'm already happy!" says Brian.

"I'd be happy…er," grins Rivers.

> "I STILL WRITE SONGS LIKE I USED TO. EXCEPT I NOW HAVE EXCEL FORMULAS FOR MY LYRICS…"
>
> • RIVERS CUOMO •

S IS FOR… SHARP, MATT

The former Weezer bassist might have only played on two Weezer albums, Blue and follow-up Pinkerton, but his legacy looms large over the band's history. Things were messy with the estranged bassist for a while, resulting in out-of-court settlements based on Sharp's claim he was missing compensation for co-writing credits. But he and Rivers reunited onstage in 2004.

T IS FOR… TOWER RECORDS

During the period Rivers was writing for debut album Blue, he worked at Tower Records in LA. He credits the experience with broadening his musical mind. "I listened to basically everything that was released at that time… I was exposed to a ton of music I otherwise never would have heard."

U IS FOR… U.S. MEN'S SOCCER TEAM

Rivers is a huge football fan – he was wearing a Tiburones Rojos del Veracruz shirt (a Mexican football team) in the video for their first single, Undone (The Sweater Song), years and years ago. In 2006 he wrote My Day Is Coming as a tribute to his country's national football team, while in 2010 he penned Represent, an unofficial anthem for the same team, as they competed in the World Cup in South Africa.

V IS FOR… VEGETARIAN

Rivers was raised so, and has been all his life – although he did once confess in an interview to having eaten "some kind of BBQ-ed beef in Tokyo".

W IS FOR… WELSH, MIKEY

Weezer's bassist for one album, 2001's Green, and part of their post-hiatus line-up. Mikey tragically passed away in 2011 in Chicago of a suspected overdose, leading to a heart attack. Two weeks earlier, on Twitter, he'd posted, "Dreamt I died in Chicago next weekend (heart attack in my sleep). Need to write my will today," followed by, "Correction – the weekend after next."

X IS FOR… XMAS WITH WEEZER

Oh, let us have that. It's actually called Christmas With Weezer and it's an iOS game, from 2008, similar to Tap Tap Revenge, featuring six Christmas carols performed by the band.

Y IS FOR… YOGAVILLE

The name of the Hindu ashram that Rivers grew up in, in Connecticut!

Z IS FOR… ZOOM

The last band Rivers was in before Weezer. Before that he was in a glam metal band called Avant Garde – which is an absolutely amazing name for a glam metal band, is it not?

"You know that photo exists…" says Scott, directly to Rivers. "We've lived it a thousand times. He's just hung up on this KISS photo."

Rivers is smirking. At this moment, the most ridiculous thing happens, even within a meeting that has covered plants that produce burgers, a dying deer, a band frontman lamenting his entire career in music, a conversation with Pat about "What is test cricket?" and answering his question "What is a sticky wicket?" that we haven't bothered to include within this feature, and the aforementioned singer being bullied by teenagers at a bus stop. Rivers sees it first, his eyes open to the size of Frisbees. For a moment the world slows down to a crawl, as a beetle, *the size of a fist*, flies into the middle of the interview, and Brian and Scott flee shrieking inside. Because of course it does.

Scott, in case you're wondering, continues to gnaw on his toothpick. "It's just a beetle."

Our time coming to a close, we want to ask Rivers about his quite remarkable Twitter usage. A constant stream of consciousness that sometimes has left us thinking, 'Dude, are you alright?' At the time of writing, recent tweets range from 'Golf was crazy fun', to 'I got a new bed', to 'Come hang with me and my dog', to 'I have a Nintendo 64'. In 2017, and this is really saying something, the Weezer frontman is the most peculiar thing on Twitter.

"So what I do is use this auto-complete thing. Like, every two weeks I fill this programme with 50 tweets and 20 Instagram pictures, and then they get spewed out at random. I like the internet, it helps me connect with other musicians, the song Go Away from Everything Will Be Alright In The End was a direct consequence of tweeting Bethany [Cosentino, vocalist/guitarist] from Best Coast. I tweet Tyler from twenty one pilots. We went to their show and got kicked out of their backstage era by security. But then Tyler came over to apologise, which was nice of him."

He pauses.

"So, yeah, using Twitter that way, giving the people bot-Rivers… It saves me getting sucked into the internet."

Well, of course it does, Rivers. Of course it does.

Interview concluded, Kerrang! takes five minutes to collect our thoughts – it's been a wild trip – while the band return to the photo studio. Rivers returns minutes later, laptop in hand, grin on face, with his Twitter profile open.

He hands Kerrang! his laptop and says, "Look in the drafts folder." So we do. Inside there is an unsent message saying, 'Had a dream I was being harassed by teenagers at a bus stop. Told them I was a famous '90s rockstar and they stopped.' Kerrang! looks at Rivers. Rivers looks at the floor, takes the laptop and returns to the studio without saying anything more.

PACIFIC DAYDREAM IS OUT ON OCTOBER 27 VIA CRUSH MUSIC/ ATLANTIC RECORDS. WEEZER TOUR THE UK IN OCTOBER – SEE THE GIG GUIDE FOR INFORMATION

Rivers! Rivers! Over here. Riv– Oh, forget it. Home time

HELL ON EARTH

HOW EXACTLY DOES THE WORLD'S MOST ISOLATED BIG CITY GIVE BIRTH TO ONE OF ITS MOST FEROCIOUS, DANGEROUS BANDS? PAUL TRAVERS RUNS FOR COVER FROM **CURSED EARTH**'S **JAZMINE LUDERS**...

Onstage, Jazmine Luders is a vital force; whirling, driving and punctuating her band Cursed Earth's fearsome grooves with raging screams and sinister growls. It is, she says, the place where she can most fully be herself.

Offstage, however, she's quiet, thoughtful and measured – not given to hyperbole or exaggeration, and this is likely the reason she won't claim music saved her life. It has most definitely *changed* her life, though, taking her from a place of uncertainty to her current position fronting one of the most exciting hardcore bands on the planet right now.

"It gave me something to be a part of that I didn't have before," she states. "I was bullied and teased in school, and I was run out of high school. So after I left I was basically in solitude before I found hardcore and made friends through that."

What do you mean when you say you were "run out" of high school? Were you expelled?

"I was just run out. I was threatened by a bunch of people for being a homosexual," she clarifies, matter-of-factly.

Fortunately, there was a more open, inclusive community existing on the fringes in her hometown of Perth on the western coast of Australia. All Jazmine had to do was find it. Her signpost came in the shape of some Aussie hardcore legends.

"The first gig my brother and I ever went to was

We've never wondered if microphones can feel pain before. We hope not...

PHOTO: JACK RUDDER

Parkway Drive," she smiles. "A local band called Mandalay Victory opened, and we found out a week later they were having an album launch at the local skate park that doubled as an all-ages venue. It was awesome – we were addicted, and we started going every week. That's what got me into hardcore."

Jazmine became a face on the scene but hadn't considered starting, or even joining, a band. And even if she had, it wouldn't have been as a singer.

"I never thought I'd be a screamer," she explains. "I've been a drummer for the last 10 years, so I never thought that being a vocalist was going to be on the cards for me."

That changed at one of her weekly forays to YMCA HQ, Perth's all-ages live music venue and arts hub. If you've ever been to a hardcore show, you'll know that audience members have a tendency to sing – or at least to shout and scream – into the microphone almost as much as the band onstage.

"I didn't even know I had it in me to be able to scream like that," she recalls. "It wasn't until I got a mic-grab one day and everyone just looked at me like, 'Holy crap, did that come out of her?'

"After that, our guitarist Kieran [Molloy] was planting the seeds of Cursed Earth. He sent me a message asking if I wanted to do the vocals, even though I'd never sung for a band, ever. It was my first band, so I was pretty intimidated being in this thing with dudes from bands I had previously seen and liked."

None of Cursed Earth wanted to give up their sofa space when Bake Off was on

"HARDCORE GAVE ME SOMETHING TO BE PART OF..."
JAZMINE LUDERS

The foundations were laid for Cursed Earth (named after a song by Aussie hardcore mob Phantoms), but there was still work to do, not least because Perth is the most isolated major city in the world. According to Jazmine, this has its benefits, however.

"You're so far away from everything and it costs so much to travel, so you only start playing because it's something you really want to do," she explains

That's how it started for Jazmine, and that sense of release is still key for her.

"I'm a quiet person," she explains. "When there are a lot of people around I have quite bad social anxiety and other different mental problems. The only venting that I get is that 25 minutes onstage where I can just totally roar. It's really the only time I get to be myself."

There is perhaps an element of self-help and therapy to what Cursed Earth do. Beyond the cathartic fury of the live show, their first European release, Enslaved By The Insignificant (actually an amalgamation of former EPs) dealt largely with the band members' personal struggles with anxiety. That acute self-awareness started to resonate with others, however, and their visceral metallic hardcore, showcased via relentless touring, saw the name start to spread.

Then in August they stepped up a gear with the crushing, 5K-rated EP, Cycles Of Grief Volume I: Growth. Just a few weeks later they followed it up with Volume II: Decay.

"We wanted people to take each song as it is, rather than getting an album of 12 songs and only picking two or three to listen to them," Jazmine explains of the dual-release format. "We do have one song [Sanctioned Violence, from Vol. I] that's aimed towards the justice system and the way the police treat the public. Other than that, the songs deal with what's going on in our lives. That filters through into the music, but it's even better if people can take their own meanings and apply them to their own lives."

Cursed Earth's reputation is already preceding them across international borders, and next month they'll play their first European and UK shows with fellow Perth band Make Them Suffer.

"It is a surreal thing coming from nothing and being one of the kids that's always in the crowd, never thinking I'd be in a band," says Jazmine. "Just to have the opportunity to go to different countries and play is amazing. We can't wait to get over, see your country, and show you what our music is like."

With one of the most viciously exciting bands in the world heading our way, the feeling is definitely mutual.

CURSED EARTH'S CYCLES OF GRIEF VOLUME II: DECAY IS OUT NOW VIA UNFD. THE BAND TOUR THE UK IN OCTOBER – SEE THE GIG GUIDE

BIRTHED IN PERTH (AND SYDNEY...)

JAZMINE TALKS US THROUGH A COUPLE OF BANDS MAKING THEIR MARK IN HER HOMETOWN, AND A LITTLE FURTHER AFIELD...

MAKE THEM SUFFER

"We're coming over to the UK with them. They were one of the first bands I ever saw at YMCA HQ, and they're still one of the heaviest live experiences I've *ever* had in my life. They blew me away and still do to this day. They've achieved an amazing amount, they're doing so well, and it's really great to witness."

UNRAVEL

"They're a HM-2 [iconic metal distortion pedal/sound] kind of death metal band. They're a four-piece made up of young dudes in Perth who have been in the scene for a while and absolutely crushing it right now. It's Nails, Black Breath type stuff. They're very in-your-face, and they riff you to death!"

JUSTICE FOR THE DAMNED

"The scene in Perth isn't what it once was, unfortunately. It's really dwindled recently, so I'll have to go with a band from Sydney. They're one of my favourite bands of all time and also our best friends in the entire world. It's solid riffs, big melodies, crazy drumming, and they're just the most fantastic people on Earth."

KERRANG! TOUR 2017
BOSTON MANOR
HAVEN'T BEEN MYSELF
PHOTO: CARMIN EDWARDS

KERRANG!

enter:shikari

PHOTO: TOM BARNES DIGITAL ART: STEVE HORSFALL

KERRANG!
EVANESCENCE
AMY LEE
PHOTO: P.R. BROWN

KERRANG!
THE XCERTS

PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES

PHOTO: TOM BARNES

The Light FANTAST

FOR **KELLIN QUINN**, GROWING UP IN PUBLIC HASN'T BEEN WITHOUT ITS DARK TIMES. BUT, HAVING OPENED UP MORE THAN EVER ON **SLEEPING WITH SIRENS**' NEW ALBUM, **GOSSIP**, HE'S LEARNING TO LIGHTEN UP...

WORDS: MATT ALLEN **PHOTOS:** GRIZZLEE MARTIN

Kellin Quinn is fading, fast. Suffering from a heavy cold, Sleeping With Sirens' frontman is currently stumbling through one of a clutch of aborted interview attempts with Kerrang!. The aim: to dissect his band's latest album, Gossip – an adrenaline-spiking splurge of hooky guitars dispensing instantly memorable riffs. Interview one took place en route to the doctor's office. This follow-up is happening as Kellin fantasises aloud about staying in bed all day, "sleeping and eating shitty food." He coughs, he splutters. His words are punctuated by heaving sniffs and snorts, but the 31-year-old won't be quitting this chat in a hurry.

"You've got to motivate yourself to keep going," he says, defiantly. "I don't think I'm always the most determined. I can get myself in a rut, like today, when all I want to do is stay in my bunk. But I think it's important to create through those moments. That's when you find the best songs to write, when you feel down or uninspired – that's when you [have to] push through."

Certainly Kellin and his Sleeping With Sirens bandmates – guitarists Jack Fowler and Nick Martin, bassist Justin Hills, and drummer Gabe Barham – know a thing or two about battling against episodes of adversity. Gossip, their fifth studio album, and the record most likely to match 2013's breakout release, Feel, is a coming-of-age project; an "honest" retelling of the frontman's shift from "boy to man" as he faces up to the twin responsibilities of being an instantly-recognisable rockstar, and a father to his young daughter, Copeland. The growing pains have come thick and fast: Gossip is shot through with a sense of personal acceptance (Hole In My Heart), facing up to the doubters and critics (One Man Army), and losing your sense of self, or forgetting what's important in life, in whatever it is you're working on (Trouble).

For Kellin, this was a response to the music industry that seemed eager to change the way he presented his music.

TIC

"It's about getting lost in everything around you when you feel like you have to be this certain person," he says. "It's about having people come up to you and tell you who you're supposed to be. I feel there are a lot of hands on your music all the time. There are a lot of people who want you to do certain things and to be certain things. I've found myself in trouble because it's like, 'Is this [music] even mine anymore? Is it everybody else's?' It's a frustrating experience, and in a lot of ways music becomes about everyone else and not so much about you anymore."

In parts, Gossip is very much about this struggle. And Kellin – his body racked with illness, might be on a bit of a low today – can be forgiven for sounding a little downbeat. Sometimes, though, when he speaks of "finding the motivation" to forge ahead with Sleeping With Sirens, the band he's fronted since their emergence "seven or eight years" ago, moments of self-doubt creep into his answers. At times, it sounds as if he's had a hard time locating his creative mojo.

"I'm not a kid anymore," he says. "I feel like sometimes you wake up in the morning and you question why you do what you do. I think that's something everyone struggles with. Are you doing it for passion, or are you doing it to pay the bills? It's something that's been going through my head. This record is inspiring enough to make me want to keep making music, to want to keep going with it."

Did you ever feel like quitting?

"No, because there's nothing else I'm good at doing," he laughs. "I still love making music. I think it's something I'll always do, whether that's me being an artist, or working on the management side of things, or running a label. There's always going to be a foot in the door,

"I'VE ALWAYS BEEN VULNERABLE"
KELLIN QUINN

because that's where my passion is. But you have to have faith in why you started – that's something our band has always had… I think I'm a survivor. I'm still going strong, so I'm obviously doing something right. And I'm proud of what we've accomplished."

This doubt is also indicative of Kellin's open and honest attitude to songwriting. When asked to describe his life as an artist and family man, he explains there's very little to divide the two. He doesn't think of himself as a rockstar at all. "I think I'm just a guy that writes songs that people relate to. I don't have this rockstar mentality where I think I've gotta to go out there and be this fake fucking guy onstage; I don't have to go up there and pretend to be something that I'm not. I'm vulnerable and honest and that's the way I've always been."

So far, it's worked out just fine.

On Gossip's title-track – a passing shot at online critics and the implications of careless words – Kellin talks of having nine lives. A few of them have been used up already, he reckons. "I'm probably down to four or five," he laughs, before dividing his life up into several distinct chapters. The first, he explains, arrived as a kid; the next when he went to high school, a period in which he listened to the '60s and '70s rock albums his grandmother had given to him on vinyl. "The Beatles, Fleetwood Mac, the Stones – the stuff that had the most passion." His college chapter, by all accounts, was a little frazzled. "You don't know who you are, you think, 'Holy shit, I'm fucked,'" he laughs.

Fast-forward to now. Kellin is working through another tumultuous episode, though the narrative this time is of changing priorities. Gossip sees him as a

Things we know: don't let SWS put up your Christmas decorations

TEAM SWS

THE LADS ARE OLYMPIC-BOUND! UM, WHAT...?

In February, 2018, Legends – Gossip's opening single – will become the official anthem to the U.S. Olympic team, who hope to be competing in the winter games in South Korea.

"It's really cool," says Kellin. "I never thought one of my songs would get used in something like the Olympics.

"Am I sporty guy? I wouldn't say that, but I can hang. If you were to play me at basketball I would put some points on the board, but I wouldn't be the most valuable player in the team.

"I think we're going to perform at the kick-off party for the Winter Olympics, which should be really cool. How did it come about? It was a case of right place, right time. We got word that it was going to happen when we were in London on the last tour we were doing there. We were excited and shocked and honoured to be a part of it. I'm excited to see how it turns out."

responsible adult, supporting his family while working in the studio and out on the road. But these days there are "more important things to worry about" than the gig he's got next, the city he's heading towards. All of a sudden, his life as a 20-something starting his time with Sleeping With Sirens is a retreating speck in the rearview mirror. "My dad told me, when I turned 21, 'You'll be 30 before you know it.' He was so fucking right. It was the fastest time in my life."

He says he didn't really think about his age until his last birthday. Then his reaction was, "Fuck, I'm halfway through. Where did it go?" But that's because life, and change, has come at him fast. Meanwhile, his passion for music takes him away from home for long periods.

"Do I miss my daughter when I'm gone?" he says. "Of course, but I'm responsible for my family and I want to take care of them, so that's what I do. I look at being on the road as my job and I've got to got to work in the same way as everybody else does. Yes, I make music, but it's still my job – and I have to take care of my family and give my daughter the best life I can. It's a good feeling to know that you're giving the family a life doing something that you love to do. She is very musical, and she's always happy. She looks at life as an adventure, which is something to be admired. She inspires me every day."

Throughout Sleeping With Sirens' latest creative splurge, Kellin has also found the time to figure out who he is. He says that Gossip has been his way of moving into manhood, of figuring out how he operates as a dad, a husband and a musician.

"I feel like I'm trying to work out what kind of person I am every single day," he says. "I feel like I'm growing up with each record I make – I feel different and I can catalogue my records as my life, something I'll be able to give to my daughter someday.

"I'm 31 so I can't be a boy anymore," he continues. "But on the inside I feel like I'm always going to be young, so there's a fight between my age and how I'm supposed to act. I've found myself this past year trying to live more in the present, and the future, because you can't go back and change what you've already done. All you can do is focus is what you can do now and what your future holds. But I don't regret anything. I don't think you should think like that. If you spend your days regretting things, you're always going to be lost. You make mistakes, you learn from them and then you don't make them again. That's how I look at my life."

Kellin isn't claiming to have everything figured out, but he does have a better handle on the things that he's realised are most meaningful to him: family, friends ("ones that know the real me"), fans of his band, and a sense of opportunity. "I value every single day I get to wake up and be alive," he says. Overall though, Sleeping With Sirens is an opportunity for him to put his thoughts and emotions – the dark and light places – down on the page in an honest and open way. The process, he reckons, is pretty straightforward.

"I've been doing it for eight years," he says. "I don't think there's a mathematical process to making lyrics, you just have to write what you're thinking or feeling. If you can be honest, it helps you to write great songs. But if you're trying to be someone else or you've got this character that you've made, that can be daunting because it's not about you. It's what everybody else wants. Besides, I'd be cheating my fans if I wasn't being honest."

Sleeping With Sirens have arrived at their current destination through determination and vulnerability, with the two arriving hand in hand on Gossip. Kellin Quinn might be under the weather, but he's about to emerge from his short-lived rut in fighting form. It's what tends to happen when you push through the pain.

SLEEPING WITH SIRENS' ALBUM GOSSIP IS OUT NOW VIA WARNER BROS. THE BAND TOUR THE UK WITH RISE AGAINST IN NOVEMBER – SEE THE GIG GUIDE

MOST H

CHELSEA WOLFE HAS JUST RELEASED THE BLEAKEST, MOST HAUNTING ROCK RECORD OF THE YEAR. STYLE OVER SUBSTANCE? HELL NO, AS SHE TELLS K! OF THE DARKNESS BEHIND THE STUNNING **HISS SPUN**...

WORDS: RYAN DE FREITAS **PHOTOS:** D.K. GORDON, GETTY

Chelsea Wolfe is baring her soul like never before. On the doom metal-worshipping passages and dark electronic dirges of her new album Hiss Spun, she tackles the demons of addiction, anxiety and alcoholism in a way that clears the typically murky waters of her music, allowing listeners an up-close look at the horror that lies beneath.

Being so candid doesn't come naturally, however. This is Chelsea's fifth full-length and her umpteenth musical project overall, but this is the first time she's been this open. Her early career was mired by fear and self-consciousness, so much so that she used to wear a veil onstage to conceal her extreme stage fright.

"I was painfully shy," Chelsea says, reflecting on her timid first steps. "To begin with, I didn't even really share my music with anyone."

In fact, the only reason that she ended up ever putting her music into the world was relentless encouragement from friends who happened to overhear her writing and recording at home.

"Eventually I did listen to those people and I decided to put myself out there," she says, "but I never really envisioned that there

"MAKING THIS RECORD WAS AN EXORCISM"
CHELSEA WOLFE

Chelsea Wolfe's local branch of Millets was surprisingly glamorous

HAUNTED

would come a point where I could do this as a career. I just wasn't very confident or outgoing like that."

Today, of course, Chelsea is far more assured. 'Confident' and 'outgoing' are still among the last words she'd likely use as self-descriptors, but in recent years she's managed to steal the show when performing her Blood Moon collaborations with experimental hardcore legends Converge, has been invited to tour with the likes of Deafheaven, Russian Circles and Queens Of The Stone Age, and now, on Hiss Spun, she's drawn her best work yet from herself. That's a CV that couldn't possibly fail to encourage even the most self-doubting of artists.

"I don't feel like a different artist," Chelsea's keen to point out, "but I do feel stronger as a person. I'm 33 years old, I've been doing this for over 10 years now, and I feel like I'm at a place where I can communicate my vision better and feel stronger about pushing for it.

"In the past when a tour was coming up, I'd almost be having panic attacks about it," she continues. "But now I'm able to take it in my stride and focus on making it a good show. It's just about taking time, and growth. I'm not someone who came out of the gate at 18 years old knowing what I wanted to do and how I wanted to do it, but I'm glad that, at this point in my life, I'm a lot closer to that."

Prior to the inception of Hiss Spun, Chelsea Wolfe had been living in Downtown LA, but found that she needed to escape the hustle and bustle of the city in order to bring some balance to her hectic life as a musician.

"There were tons of people, tons of cars, and helicopters flying overhead every night," Chelsea remembers. "It was an intense energy and, when I come back from tour, I need some isolation from all of that."

Eventually, Chelsea relocated to a small town in the woods of northern California, from where she is speaking today, and found the peace that allows her to thrive. A landscape dotted with what she calls "magical spots" – rivers, lakes and 2,000-year-old trees – it's the perfect backdrop for otherworldly music like hers.

But before finding this picturesque sanctuary, she moved in with family while she was "between apartments", which took her on a bittersweet trip down memory lane.

"Spending time with old family, old friends and in old haunts again was really digging up a lot of memories for me," Chelsea says. "Some of them were good, some of them weird, and some of them were really dreadful. I had to face a lot of my past – past relationships, past issues with my family, health issues I was ignoring… I really didn't have a lot of space to myself at that time, so I was reverting to a bedroom studio set-up, sitting on my bed with a guitar and a microphone, with all that going straight into my headphones. I created my own little world that way and blocked everything else out so that I could find space where I didn't have any."

That world became Hiss Spun, and it's inhabited by the feelings of fear, regret, grief and anxiety that surfaced during her time in that house. In the past, Chelsea has made an active decision not to write about her own life too plainly, her intent to separate herself from her art so strong that she once scrapped what would have been her debut album because it revealed too much about her personal life. But all this time in her own head bringing reality into focus meant that self-exploration became impossible to avoid.

"A lot of the songs are about living in an excessive, unhealthy way and dealing with my anxiety in an unhealthy way," Chelsea reveals. "Drinking too much, addiction, and then those things leading to insomnia. I became really unhealthy because I was letting my anxiety dictate how I was living."

Whether this proved to be a reality check, or simply a way to process these things in the artistic realm where Chelsea is most comfortable, the writing and recording of Hiss Spun turned out to be the catharsis she needed to take control of her life once more.

"It was an exorcism," she says bluntly. "At first it was happening by accident, but then I made a choice that I would have to face these things and put some of my life and my memories into the songs.

"It was a catalyst to get healthier. I've been focusing on trying to get myself to a good place so that I can be stronger than these songs. I don't want to be up onstage singing this song about being a total mess while being hungover or fucked-up and still feeling that way."

With those demons now all but banished, and an album that's the crowning achievement in an already impressive career, Chelsea is ready for whatever the future may bring.

"I'm still working on it," she concludes. "I'm not a perfect person by any means, but I had to get my shit together a little bit… So I did."

CHELSEA WOLFE'S ALBUM HISS SPUN IS OUT NOW VIA SARGENT HOUSE

DON'T JUDGE A COVER BY ITS, ER, COVER

THE SLEEVE FOR HISS SPUN ISN'T YOUR USUAL BAND-LOGO-ATOP-A-LITERAL-INTERPRETATION-OF-THE-TITLE AFFAIR. CHELSEA TAKES US INSIDE THE MYSTERY OF HER COVER ART…

Despite musically being more open than Chelsea's ever been, Hiss Spun's cover is a different story. It features the singer, shrouded in black, crouched in the corner, looking less than approachable. So, why the mixed messages?

"I didn't imagine it as being unapproachable, but there is a lot of anger on this record that I've never let out before, and I wanted to represent that," she explains.

"There is a lot of messiness and frantic, feral feelings on this album that I wanted to embrace. On the cover, I'm wearing a dress that's basically made out of hair; for me, hair represents the messiness of it all. We tried to incorporate that as much as we could in the visuals, spelling out words with hair, having cut hair thrown around. I wanted to be like a cornered animal on the cover, 'cause you never know when they're going to strike or what exactly they're angry about. I really like that."

THE SONGS THAT SAVED MY LIFE

ATTENTION! ATTENTION! **SWMRS** ARE GOING TO BE TEARING UP THE UK'S MOTORWAYS THIS WEEK. WHAT'S **COLE BECKER** PLAYING IN THE VAN? THIS STUFF!

THIS WEEK: COLE BECKER, SWMRS

THE SONG THAT MAKES ME THINK OF HOME IS...

THIZZLE DANCE
MAC DRE

"When I was growing up I lived in a really small suburban town in Oakland, California. It was pretty sheltered, but the one thing that did seep through about the dominant culture of Oakland was music. Every time I was at a party this song would come on, because it's a staple of East Bay underground hip-hop music. It's kind of like the most punk-rock rap music that's ever existed. It describes this dance where you get a look on your face like you smell some piss, and it has its own dance called the Thizzle Dance – it's just like you're really feeling yourself."
FIND IT: Thizzelle Washington (2002)

THE SONG I WOULD LIKE TO COVER IS...

KILLING IN THE NAME
RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE

"It's not quite metal and it's not quite punk and it's not quite rap, but it's all the best elements of the three. I think it's the perfect tempo to get people jumping, but it also can be played in other settings. Like, when you play fast punk, it can only be heard live, that's the best way to hear it. This song has the slower tempo of really punk rap, and I really like it."
FIND IT: Rage Against The Machine (1992)

THE SONG I WISH I HADN'T RECORDED IS...

MISS YER KISS
SWMRS

"I love all the music we make! I think there are songs I would wanna record differently, though. When I hear this I'm like, 'Oh well, at least I know I've grown, because now I don't like hearing that.' We were experimenting a lot, and I think the spirit of experimentation is really strong in this song, and that's what I appreciate about it. I just think the end product isn't where it could be, necessarily."
FIND IT: Drive North (2016)

THE SONG THAT MADE ME WANT TO BE A MUSICIAN WAS...

SCHOOL OF ROCK
SCHOOL OF ROCK CAST

"When you're nine and you see a nine-year-old in a movie, playing rock music, that's the most electrifying thing that could ever happen. I was like, 'I wanna be a musician! I wanna start a band!' I was watching it with Joey [Armstrong, drums], and that's when we started Emily's Army. Or, actually, The Raining Souls. No, actually… The Clocks. But we started The Raining Souls, and then we were The Clocks, and then we were Emily's Army, and now we're SWMRS."
FIND IT: School Of Rock (2003)

"I'D DO TAYLOR SWIFT ON KARAOKE!"
COLE BECKER

THE SONG WITH THE GREATEST LYRICS EVER IS...

OFF YOU
THE BREEDERS

"'*I am the autumn in the scarlet / I am the make-up on your eyes.*' Those lyrics hit you *so* hard. And you don't really know what Kim Deal [Breeders frontwoman] is singing about, but you know immediately what it means to you when you hear it. I listen to this song and I think of friends I don't see anymore, people I know who died, people I used to be in love with, people I'm *still* in love with, and it conjures all those memories at once. That's what the best lyrics do."
FIND IT: Title Tk (2002)

THE BEST SONG EVER WRITTEN IS...

REBEL REBEL
DAVID BOWIE

"It's got all the elements – it's got the riff, it's got the really driving drum beat, and David Bowie's voice is *amazing*! And it's got the cavalier rebellion of someone who's not quite punk, but a young and energetic New York kinda person. '*Hey babe, your hair's alright / Hey babe, let's go out tonight*' – yeah! It's just a classic. The first time I heard it I was 12 years old, and Joey was like, 'Check out this song my dad just showed me…' and it was *so* good."
FIND IT: Diamond Dogs (1974)

WORDS: JENNYFER J. WALKER **PHOTO:** LINDSEY BYRNES

beat rate 98 Bpm Ego | 117 63 heart 85 | high normal low

THE WORST SONG EVER IS...

CALIFORNICATION

RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS

"Whenever we go anywhere and we tell people we're from California, they're like, 'Fucking Red Hot Chili Peppers – love that band!' I never liked them. I really respect them, but I hear a Red Hot Chili Peppers song every single day – I can't get rid of them!"

FIND IT: Californication (1999)

THE LAST SONG I LISTENED TO WAS...

GIRL

THE INTERNET (FEATURING KAYTRANADA)

"The Internet are kind of an electro-R&B-indie band on Odd Future [Records] – I don't know the best word to describe them. Rock music is my favourite music, but there are other moments where you need to listen to something else, and this is a perfectly done song for the style that it's in. I discovered them when I was in college – a lot of my friends listened to electronic stuff, and I found them through a friend and got really into them. They're great."

FIND IT: Ego Death (2015)

THE SONG YOU WOULDN'T EXPECT TO FIND ON MY IPOD IS...

SHAKE IT OFF

TAYLOR SWIFT

"No matter how many times I say, 'Yeah, I don't really like Taylor Swift,' this song comes on and I'm like, '*I stay out too late! / Got nothing in my brain!*' It's one of those songs where it doesn't have to mean anything, besides it being a good song and a sound that makes you feel good. I would probably do this on karaoke!"

FIND IT: 1989 (2014)

THE SONG THAT MAKES ME WANT TO CRY IS...

I'LL FOLLOW THE SUN

THE BEATLES

"The harmonies are really beautiful, and it's early Beatles, one of their more intricate early songs. I heard it once when my sister was moving away to college. I really love my sister, and I was like, 'Urgh, nothing's gonna be the same!' '*So my love I must go, and though I lose a friend, in the end you will know / One day you'll find that I have gone, but tomorrow may rain, so I'll follow the sun.*' When I feel sad, I try to avoid sad music, because it just makes it worse!"

FIND IT: Beatles For Sale (1964)

THE SONG THAT MAKES ME WANT TO STAGE-DIVE IS...

THE HUNTER

SLAVES

"What's that really big Slaves song? The Hunter! We did an interview with [Beats 1 DJ] Zane Lowe a while ago and he was like, 'Have you guys heard Slaves? You guys remind me of Slaves.' He showed us a video, and it was them at [O2 Academy] Brixton, and the whole crowd were going crazy, the way British crowds do. People were just going crazy and pitting really hard. And Slaves look crazy onstage because it's the two of them. This song has so much energy, and it's the kinda shit that's new! I get the same feeling listening to this that I do when I listen to Skepta – this is what punk music is going to sound like for the next 10 years."

FIND IT: Are You Satisfied? (2015)

EMP
EUROPE'S #1 for MUSIC, MOVIE, TV & GAMING MERCHANDISE | ALTERNATIVE CLOTHING
Get 15% discount* with your next order at emp.co.uk with this code: EMPKRR15
*no minimum order value, valid until 30.11.2017
visit us at emp.co.uk

ANATOMY OF A ROCKSTAR

AHREN STRINGER

THE AMITY AFFLICTION

AN AUSSIE WHO LOVES OUR MISERABLE WEATHER AND DOESN'T SURF? CHECK THIS MAN'S PASSPORT...

fig.1

I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO THE KERRANG! TOUR BECAUSE...

"I like the cold. I like dreary weather, walking in drizzle through old cobbled streets and church yards, and looking at buildings. You've got pubs that are older than our country!"

fig.2

ASIDE FROM MUSIC, I'VE ALSO WORKED IN...

"A fruit shop, bagging potatoes, for two years. I worked in McDonald's for two years while I was in high school, then I did a telemarketing job selling mobile phones. That was awful, and you only made a sale if you scored a 90-year-old bloke who didn't know why he was giving you his credit card details. After that I did scaffolding in the hot sun for seven years straight, until we finally wrote a decent album and people started to like us."

fig.3

I CAN'T EAT PORK BECAUSE...

"I recently discovered that I have insane, wake-up-screaming nightmares when I eat it! I have a crazy theory that it's because we're similar to pigs, in some ways. They can even do pig-heart transplants into human bodies. Mad cow disease occurred because we were feeding cows beef. Maybe eating human flesh would make us go mad? And pigs are too close to people..."

fig.4

MY FAVOURITE FILM IS...

"Beerfest. We watch it on every single tour. It's just a funny, silly, dumb drinking movie about a competition between Germany and America. They drink a lot of beer, and silliness follows. It always puts me in a good mood."

fig.5

MY MOST MEANINGFUL TATTOOS ARE...

"The 'mum and dad' tattoo behind my ear – it's just a little love heart. I also have a portrait of [late AC/DC singer] Bon Scott on my leg. He's one of my idols. They are probably my favourite band of all time."

SEE THEM ON THE KERRANG! TOUR 2017

CHECK THE GIG GUIDE FOR MORE INFO!

fig.6

THE 'AUSSIE BLOKE' CLICHÉ I DON'T LIVE UP TO IS...

"I don't surf. Joel [Birch, co-vocalist] and Dan [Brown, guitar] do, but I grew up away from any beaches. I never had the chance to learn how to, and it's not really something you just pick up after a couple of tries. I do love to fire up the barbie, though, and that's an Australian tradition. I do the whole 'throw a shrimp on the barbie' thing – even though we call them prawns in Australia."

"I COULDN'T IMAGINE DOING ANYTHING ELSE..."

• AHREN STRINGER •

fig.7

MY BIGGEST TOUR BUS TIME-KILLER IS...

"Playing the NHL ice hockey video game series, which we're all obsessed with. Honestly, it's all we do on tour. It's good fun, but it does get competitive. We always have tournaments to see who's the best on the bus. Who is it? For the purpose of this interview, let's say it's me!"

fig.8

MY BIGGEST PASSIONS OUTSIDE MUSIC ARE...

"I watch a lot of ice hockey and baseball. My favourite team is the Baltimore Orioles. I can watch sports all day. My other creative passions are drawing and painting. Eventually, when the band finally slows down, I want something else to fall back on, so it would be amazing if I could make a living as a tattoo artist."

fig.9

WHEN I'M ON TOUR I MISS...

"Being at home and living a normal life. I miss my girlfriend more than anyone, but there's all my friends, my cat... You sacrifice all that normal life stuff to live this lifestyle. You find yourself living out of a suitcase for weeks at a time, but right now I couldn't imagine myself doing anything else. You've got to take the good with the bad."

WORDS: PAUL TRAVERS PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES

LIVES

RATINGS
KKKKK = CLASSIC
KKKK = EXCELLENT
KKK = GOOD
KK = AVERAGE
K = POOR

FOO FIGHTERS

THE O2, LONDON. 19.09.17

KKKK

LONDON GETS RICK-GROHLED AS FOOS UNLEASH CONCRETE AND GOLD AT THREE-HOUR MEGA PARTY

WORDS: NICK RUSKELL **PHOTOS:** PAUL HARRIES, OLIVER HALFIN

"IF I lose my voice first, I'm buying everyone a fuckin' drink!" bellows Dave Grohl during the mammoth sing-along to The Pretender. "I *never* lose my voice, so I guess we're playing all fuckin' night!"

The hour grows late, folks look nervously at their watches, but the Foos frontman does not give the tiniest of fucks. As the show goes on, you wonder if he might actually be serious about that promise.

"I think you missed your fuckin' trains," he announces later. "I'm really sorry…"

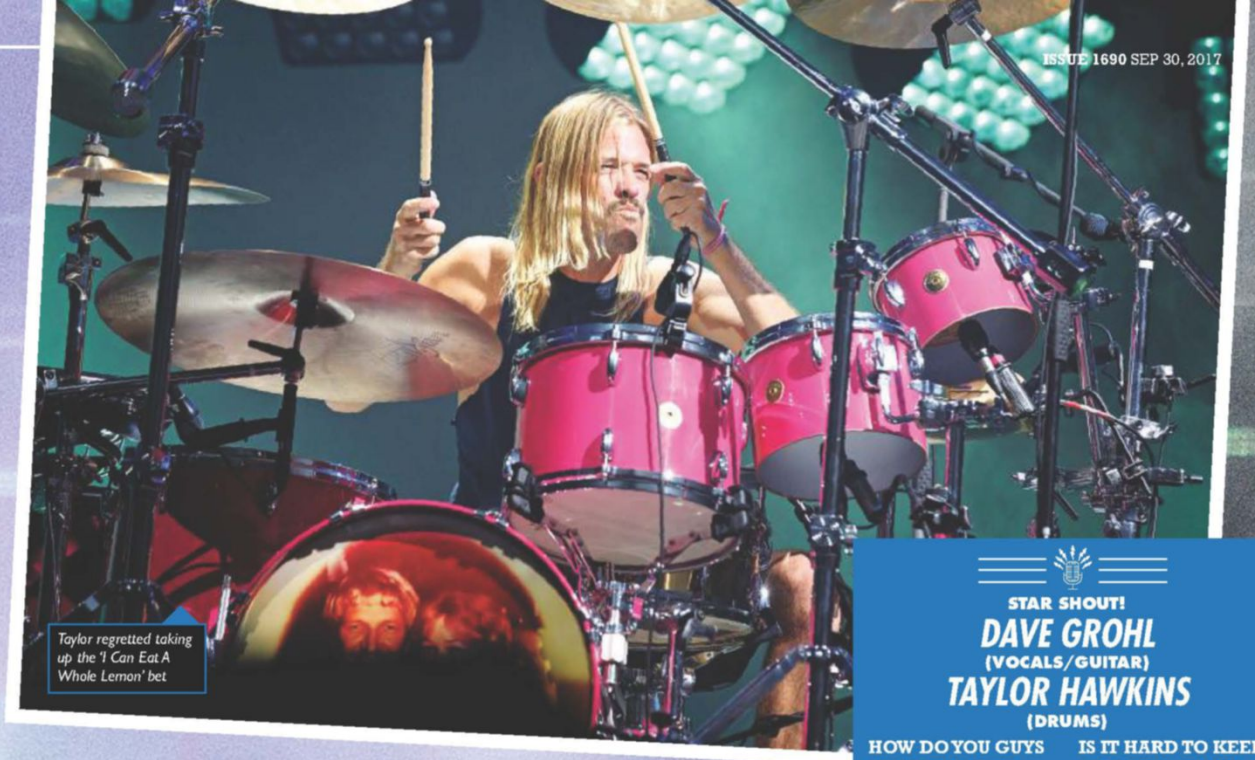
He says this at about quarter-past 10. You could almost play an entire football match in the time remaining before Foo Fighters finally leave the stage in a hail of feedback, following a monumental Everlong. If you have a home to go to, you're screwed. And all you can think is: 'Good.'

On any normal night, Big Dave is in a good mood onstage. But this is a launch bash of sorts for Foos' 4K-rated Concrete And Gold album, and part of the celebrations for The O2's 10th birthday, so we get Party Grohl. And nothing is going to stop him.

The band begin their near three-hour set with a quickfire jab-jab-jab of tunes, one after the other, no fat, no fucking about: I'll Stick Around, All My Life, Learn To Fly, The Sky Is A Neighborhood. It's the sort of dominant entrance that usually requires tanks and the violation of international laws. And when the horsing around and extended jams do come, they're delivered with class and skill. During These Days, the crowd takes over and begin singing their own chorus, conducted by Dave, before an off-set list blast through Queen's Tie Your Mother Down finds Taylor Hawkins taking over vocals. And then, as the minute-hand creeps further toward midnight and you're wondering what else they can pull out of the bag, Rick Astley (who else?) appears for a turbo-charged run-through of Never Gonna Give You Up. It is as gloriously, naffly brilliant as it sounds.

So, yeah, good luck getting home. But it's times like these you realise just how much fun a killer Tuesday night ruining your Wednesday morning can be. Thanks, Dave.

Dave found the splinter in his fretboard at the worst possible time



Taylor regretted taking up the 'I Can Eat A Whole Lemon' bet

STAR SHOUT!

DAVE GROHL
(VOCALS/GUITAR)

TAYLOR HAWKINS
(DRUMS)

HOW DO YOU GUYS STILL FIND THE ENERGY TO PLAY FOR THREE HOURS?

TAYLOR: "Everyone works hard in the band, but I'm back there [on the drums] trying my best to give it fucking everything I have, like it's the last show I'll ever play every time. Dave's the same fucking way, so every time we're about to go up onstage it's like, '(*Sighs*) Good luck, because this is going to *hurt*!' It's like getting in a fucking fight every single time. I can't imagine what [American] footballers feel like before getting ready to go and walk out on that football field. Like, 'I'm about to get hit by a car 37 times.' In our own small way, it's kind of like that every time we play."

IS IT HARD TO KEEP A CROWD GOING FOR THAT LONG?

DAVE: "At this point I feel sorry for the audience, because who wants to see a four-hour show?! When we go out and start playing [new song] Run, seeing the reaction in the audience, everyone singing along to the chorus, or bouncing along to the verses, it's almost like watching a flatline, and then you see a little *beep*. When we recorded it we were really into it, but then you see that happen, and you're like, 'Oh my God!' That's the best feeling. That's an accomplishment: that we have another song that still makes a connection with people, whether they're older fans or newer fans."

INTERVIEW: EMILY CARTER

Insert 'Never Gonna Give Foo Up' joke here…

As Dave's hair became self-aware and consumed him, Chris Shiflett finally nailed the end of Monkey Wrench

State Champs made a bid to be the mane event

Tom Morello forgot his guitar strap. Again

RIOT FEST

DOUGLAS PARK, CHICAGO. 15 – 17.09.17

PARAMORE, ADTR, NINE INCH NAILS AND MORE KICK UP A STORM AT CHICAGO MEGA-FEST

WORDS: RYAN DE FREITAS, SAM LAW, JAMES MACKINNON **PHOTOS:** ANTHONY NGUYEN, JASON PENDLETON

RIOT FEST is fast becoming the trip UK punters beg, borrow or steal to get the air fare for. And with a bill featuring reunited legends (Jawbreaker), returning heroes (Nine Inch Nails) and killer young pups (Knuckle Puck), this year Chicago's biggest party is simply one of the coolest festivals on the calendar.

STATE CHAMPS (KKKK) stake an early claim for loudest sing-alongs of the weekend on Friday, as they tear through a no-nonsense set full of choruses that just sound so right being sung back by a few thousand people. Meanwhile, **DEATH FROM ABOVE (KK)** are a really good band, it's just a shame that vocalist/drummer Sebastien Grainger is so dedicated to edgelord goading and downright awkward creepiness ("It's like I'm teasing you sexually," he says after starting and stopping a song intro. "Do you want to have sex with me?"). It'd be really great if he'd just shut up and let their absolute bangers do the talking. They should take a lesson from **A DAY TO REMEMBER (KKKKK)**, who have become one of the best festival bands on the planet. They've amassed a frankly ridiculous amount of fest-ready songs, and they always bring loads of beach balls and confetti. But most importantly, tonight Jeremy McKinnon attacks like this is his last show ever, turning Riot Fest into something worthy of its name.

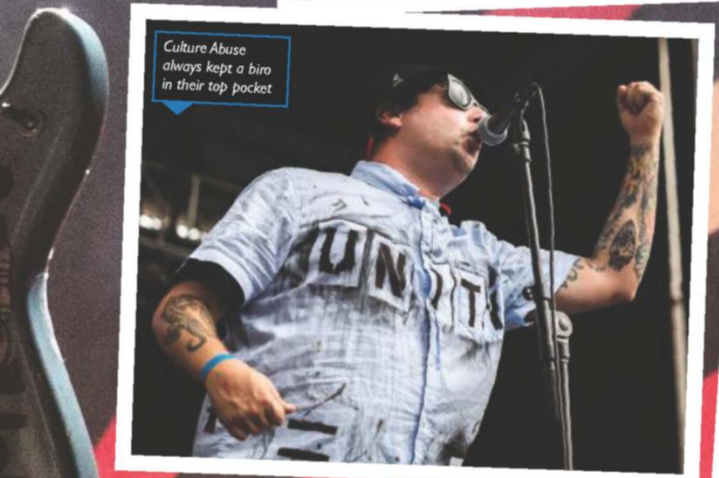
It could have been a headline set but, sorry lads, that's **NINE INCH NAILS (KKKKK)**. Some three decades since the industrial legends' emergence, Trent Reznor still electrifies. It's in enduring innovation, with fresh cuts like rabid opener Branches/Bones and a mesmeric Less Than detonating the field like ingrained classics. It's in the timeless, undiminished impact and energy of Wish, March Of The Pigs and Head Like A Hole. Most potently, however, it's in the distressed emotion coursing through Trent. Top-billing can be all about nostalgia, dissolved and distorted in the rearview. Instead, tonight proves NIN's lost highway still stretches toward the horizon.

Douglas Park is burning up under Saturday's oppressive Indian summer sun, but there's plenty of sweet effervescence to keep us refreshed. "We've been waiting for this all summer!" uncorks **KNUCKLE PUCK (KKKK)** frontman Joe Taylor. And, dropping a slew of fresh cuts from their upcoming Shapeshifter LP, the hometown boys don't take long making up for lost time. Next, **AT THE DRIVE IN**'s **(KKKK)** cult appeal Stateside is several orders of magnitude beyond last month's apathy at Reading & Leeds, and new cuts like Hostage Stamps charge mightily before One Armed Scissor slices through.

ATDI: "Open wide and say, 'in•ter a•li•aaaaa!'"

Sorry, lads, what band are you in again?

Trent Reznor's vape rig was really powerful


Culture Abuse always kept a biro in their top pocket

Jeremy McKinnon always had time for shadow puppets

Josh Homme found the rogue piece of Lego onstage, then

QUEENS OF THE STONE AGE (KKK), comparatively, are very much chillin' like Villains. So laid-back is tonight's vibe, in fact, that their performance lacks a bit of pep at times. It doesn't help that new cuts Feet Don't Fail Me and The Evil Has Landed aren't as bedded in with the audience as heavyweight cuts from their catalogue, but the languid atmosphere (including no encore) hamper the sense of occasion a bit. But when hits hit – a thumping Feel Good Hit Of The Summer, or footloose Go With The Flow – Queens are still unimpeachable rock royalty.

By the time Sunday rolls around, the well-trodden grass of Douglas Park is yellow and worn. **CULTURE ABUSE**'s **(KKK)** abrasive punk, on the other hand, is rough in all the right places. Jealous is sandpapery sweetness to this crowd's ears, and guitarist John Jr. celebrates by chugging two cans simultaneously. When in Riot Fest…

After the passing of frontman Oderus Urungus, it's good to see that **GWAR (KKK)** are still all things ludicrous and riffy, airing their fresh latex-laced lampoon of Donald Trump, El Presidente. Of course, the biggest protests belong to **PROPHETS OF RAGE (KKKK)**, duh. Fresh joints like Living On The 110 are nitro-charged rockets of righteousness, exploding perfectly next to the usual Rage Against The Machine and Public Enemy material. And while the B-Real and Chuck D-led hip-hop medley lacks oomph compared to the full-band anthems, launching into House Of Pain's Jump Around defiantly puts the 'party' back into political party.

Given the near-riot caused when a rumour goes around that Hayley Williams is handing out ice cream at the Fueled By Ramen booth (Ron Howard voice: "She wasn't"), it's safe to say that excitement is at fever pitch for **PARAMORE (KKKKK)**. And that's why, despite woefully unbalanced sound out front, Paramore are able to steal the day. Opening with Hard Times and closing with Rose-Colored Boy, they spend their hour onstage showing what they're about as a band in 2017, rather than over-indulging in their legacy. The audience are with them all the way, with new tracks receiving equally massive receptions as the likes of Misery Business and Ignorance. Audio issues do put a dampener on things, and this smaller stage, rather than the main stage, feels a little cramped, but this is one of the best bands of the modern era playing a headline-worthy set.

As for the headlining return of emo progenitors **JAWBREAKER (KKKKK)**, it's hard to overstate the crackle of anticipation. Frank Iero even scheduled his tour *specifically* so he could see his heroes tonight. It was worth it. Lines like '*It hasn't been my day for a couple of years*' (Accident Prone) burn with an innocence, as if waiting to be uttered for years, and the internal strife and external animosity that caused their split in 1996 is replaced tonight by a untied jubilation.

Riot? Damn right. Book your 2018 flights now.

REVIEWS

RATINGS
KKKKK = CLASSIC
KKKK = EXCELLENT
KKK = GOOD
KK = AVERAGE
K = POOR

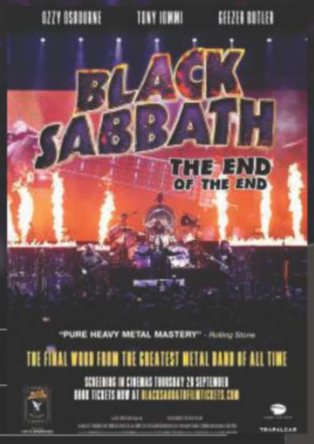
BLACK SABBATH

THE TEN YEAR WAR *(BMG)*

KKKKK

THE END OF THE END *(TRAFALGAR RELEASING)*

KKKK



METAL GODFATHERS BOW OUT WITH A DOUBLE-DOSE OF SABBRA CADABRA

A COUPLE of weeks ago, Ozzy phoned K! for a chat, during which The Big Question was once again put to the now-ex Sabbath frontman: is this really it?

"Yeah," he answered immediately. "There won't be any more shows. Not with me."

You may not believe him. You may prefer to defer to Tony Iommi's answer to the question about more shows (short version: he thinks it'd be lovely to do *something*). You may find a world without the prospect of a functioning Black Sabbath in it a dark and pointless place indeed. But what you cannot do is say you've been hard done by. Sabbath have already given the world more than enough, laying out the very carpet on which heavy music has laid its furniture for almost 50 years, and when they brought the curtain down earlier this year, with a triumphant final, *final* show in Birmingham on February 4, it was one of the best gigs they had ever played.

As if to ram this point home, here appear two bits of Sabbabelia to remind us of both. Firstly, The Ten Year War, a vinyl boxset the size of a particularly huge boardgame containing beautifully remastered splatter-vinyl editions of Sabbs' eight Ozzy-era albums in replica-original packaging (hello there, fancy, embossed Master Of Reality sleeve), as well as rare seven-inch singles, a concert programme, a book, and all the music on a crucifix-shaped USB. You have no excuse for not already owning the first six essential albums (Black Sabbath, Paranoid, Master Of Reality, Vol. 4, Sabbath Bloody Sabbath and Sabotage), but here is the perfect excuse to get them again. Technical Ecstasy and Never Say Die! remain an 'acquired' taste, but even on these, it's impossible not to feel the magic Sabbs created.

As for that final sign-off show, The End Of The End concert film captures the excitement, emotion and – most importantly – the godlike performance of the evening perfectly. The live footage is absolutely staggering, but interspersed with the band members' thoughts on the night ("It feels like something terrible's about to happen" – Geezer Butler), it becomes a heartfelt postcard of the night the greatest heavy metal band of all time said farewell. But the treat on top of the treat is when, several days after the last show, the band reconvene in a rehearsal studio to jam a few songs and have a more personal goodbye for themselves. It is this more candid stuff – Ozzy horsing around and all – that makes The End Of The End such a treat.

If there *is* another Sabbath show at some point, then great. Better than great. But to expect one now is greedy. Particularly when here you can see and hear them go out as brilliantly as they came in.

DOWNLOAD: Black Sabbath, Iron Man, Under.
FOR FANS OF: Everything Kerrang! holds dear.
NICK RUSKELL

"I WISH I COULD BE IN THE AUDIENCE AT OUR GIGS..."

OZZY OSBOURNE

THE INSIDER
OZZY OSBOURNE
(VOCALS)

HOW DO YOU FEEL WATCHING THE FINAL CONCERT BACK?

"I haven't watched it. I don't like watching myself on film or TV; I think I sound like a fucking moron. A lot of actors never go to see their own movies – I get it! But I do wish I could be in the audience at our gigs to watch us. What you get on film isn't ever the same as being there in the arena watching it live. It was a very emotional gig for me. I didn't do my usual jumping around and fucking, whatever. I was thinking, 'If you blow this, Ozzy, you are going to go down in history as the biggest fucking idiot ever.' But there's a point where you go, 'Fuck it, just go for it!'"

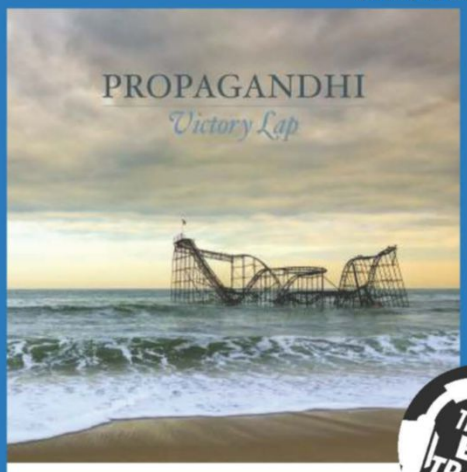
ARE YOU GLAD TO HAVE THE ALBUMS SO WELL REPACKAGED, TOO?

"Yeah! People still love those albums, even now. It's fucking crazy that there's, like, 10 year olds getting into us! Nobody can write riffs like Tony Iommi, fucking nobody, man. And when you think, 'He'll never top that,' he fucking does!"

THERE'S A LOT OF LEGEND AROUND YOUR MUSIC FROM THE EARLY DAYS. IS IT TRUE SABBATH BLOODY SABBATH WAS RECORDED IN A HAUNTED MANSION?

"Are you fucking *stoned*, mate?! How fucking high are you?! Haunted houses – of course not! Plenty of weird, crazy shit happened around Black Sabbath, man, but mostly that was us being out of our fucking minds!"

The End Of The End is in cinemas on September 28. Book tickets at blacksabbathfilmtickets.com



TRACK BY TRACK

PROPAGANDHI

VICTORY LAP *(EPITAPH)*

KKK

CANADIAN POLITICO-PUNKS RETURN TO STICK IT FIRMLY TO THE MAN ON CHARGED SEVENTH ALBUM

1 VICTORY LAP
Propagandhi are back! And if you were wondering who's better at marrying frenetic, blood-twisting riffs with a message that's always thoughtful and relevant, they come up with a swift answer here: nobody. '*Are you there, God? / It's me, in the denim jacket,*' enquires Chris Hannah, breaking up this rager with a touch of Canadian humour. The rest is a solid-gold shredding rebuke of apathy: '*There's nothing new for you to learn? / Okay, sit back, relax, you watch it all burn.*'

2 COMPLY/ RESIST
A slow-burner, until it erupts into a mosh-starter halfway through, picking at society's divides furiously.

3 COP JUST OUT OF FRAME
Riffs slalom beneath a melancholic vocal melody. The world's fucked, basically.

4 WHEN ALL YOUR FEARS COLLIDE
Bereft and brutal, this was written from the pit of grief, and it shows.

5 LETTERS TO A YOUNG ANUS
A jolt of energy, some smart asides and exactly what we'd been missing in the 'Gandhi's absence.

6 LOWER ORDER (A GOOD LAUGH)
A rites of passage curveball that gets points for effort, but isn't great.

7 FAILED IMAGINEER
Pacey, belligerent and calling out dickheads. All the things that make Propagandhi great, basically.

8 CALL BEFORE YOU DIG
A history lesson with a commendable environmental message, but not much else.

9 NIGREDO
Another mid-paced plodder that... where were we?

10 IN FLAGRANTE DELICTO
That's more like it! Biting, angry and cool – get lost in these riffs and consoling lyrics.

11 TARTUFFLE
Oooooh, that's classic Propagandhi right there, that is.

12 ADVENTURES IN ZOOCHOSIS
Fuck Trump's wall, build towering tunes like this instead. Victory Lap might not be the definitive statement Propagandhi have ever made, but it's a resounding, deafening reminder of why they need to be heard.

THIS ALBUM IS MOSTLY MADE UP OF...

WORDS: ALISTAIR LAWRENCE

KKKKKK = CLASSIC KKKK = EXCELLENT KKK = GOOD KK = AVERAGE K = POOR

MASTODON

COLD DARK PLACE *(REPRISE)*

KKKK

WINTER IS COMING, AND PROG-METAL'S WHITE-WALKERS HAVE THE TUNES TO SEE US THROUGH

"THE NIGHT is dark and full of terrors." It's an adage from Mastodon's favourite TV show Game Of Thrones, but easily applies to the Atlanta quartet's latest EP. A thousand times gnarlier than Ed "It's a new one!" Sheeran, they've already cameoed (in Cold Dark Places) as besieged Free Men and – SPOILER ALERT – ravenous ice-zombies on HBO's fantasy epic. But roles as disciples of the Many-Faced God might fit as well. Where 2014's Once More 'Round The Sun and this year's Emperor Of Sand found the metal masters tripping Technicolor highs and traversing sun-leached soundscapes, these four tracks – culled from those albums' sessions – are the transformed product of more esoteric ideas.

Contrast has always been the catalysts for Masto-brilliance. Their first four LPs – the peerless 'elemental quadrilogy' – revelled in the divisions between fiery intensity, oceanic depth, earthen grit and airy avant-garde. 2011's The Hunter was a masterpiece of shapeshifting strangeness: cataclysmic riffage dissolving into cosmic expanse. Likewise, Cold Dark Place is best appreciated as the arctic tundra to its predecessors' golden sands.

On North Side Star we're plunged headlong into an abyssal wooziness. Emulating King Crimson, Jethro Tull, or a bad trip, its whistling melodies drift like a snowstorm; lyrical nuggets like '*You and I, we could expire!*' opening a vein of bristling romanticism. Marginally less effective, Blue Walsh vibrantly evokes Once More… in blunt lyrical call-backs ('*I'm asleep in the deep!*') and ponderous structures.

The only remnant from Emperor Of Sand, Toe To TOES' powerhouse guitars, clapping percussion and whispered vocals is drawn from a lighter pallette. It's the haunting acoustic and waltzing rhythms of the title-track, though – with its outstanding electric crescendo – that hangs most memorably: a writhing nocturne against the rich night sky.

Immediate heaviosity is in short supply, but Cold Dark Place instead offers plenty of alternate impact.

DOWNLOAD: Toe To TOES, Cold Dark Place.
FOR FANS OF: Opeth, Baroness, Gojira.
SAM LAW

THE INSIDER

BRANN DAILOR
(DRUMS)

WHERE DID THE TITLE COLD DARK PLACE COME FROM?
"That's been there for years now, whenever we started writing Once More 'Round The Sun. That was the title of one of the songs that didn't make the final album. For the first time ever, we had more than we needed. We had these three songs that were just a little different and sounded like their own kind of thing."

THE ARTWORK USES DARKER COLOURS, MORE LIKE THE FIRST TWO ALBUMS THAN RECENT RELEASES…
"It was Brent's [Hinds, guitarist] idea. He had this clear vision of how he wanted the art to look. He contacted Richie Beckett, and they went back and forth to hash it all out. If Brent was cool with it, so were the rest of us. Richie is a tremendous artist and executed it perfectly."

INTERVIEW: AMIT SHARMA

ECHOIC

SHADOWS OF YOU *(ECHOIC)*

KKK

BRITISH ALT.ROCKERS EMBRACE AWKWARD EMOTIONS AND MORE ON SECOND EP

■ *'I CAN honestly say that I am obsessed with you,'* laments a troubled-sounding Connor Turner on Next To You, this EP's standout cut. These five songs confront difficult situations; feelings that might seem contradictory or threaten to spin out of control. But the Reading-based outfit make it easy to listen to. They daub their emotive, soulful rock with splashes of electronics, taking Ghost to a level it otherwise wouldn't have reached – and making sure that Next To You is something you'll easily remember. The ornate refrains on both songs are good enough to tug on the heartstrings by themselves. Are you getting emotional or is there just an Echoic in here?

DOWNLOAD: Next To You.

FOR FANS OF: Nothing But Thieves, Muse.

STEVE BEEBEE

NIGHT RIOTS

LOVE GLOOM *(SUMERIAN)*

KKK

LA NEW WAVERS TAKE SYNTH-SPIRATION FROM THEIR HEROES ON ALBUM TWO

■ AS THE album name suggests, Love Gloom is as dark and seductive as a lap dance from Voldemort. This LA coven have chucked new wave, goth, electro and synth pop into a cauldron and cooked up a record that channels AFI, The Killers and The Cure. While songs such as Don't Kill The Messenger and the suitably catchy Contagious sound like they've been copying Davey Havok's homework a little too closely, they're still hugely enjoyable; elsewhere, the likes of Pull Me Down and As You Are are dancey enough to be belted out by Brandon Flowers' bunch. If imitation's the sincerest form of flattery, Love Gloom is a love letter to some of rock's most synth-fluential bands.

DOWNLOAD: Nothing Personal.

FOR FANS OF: AFI, Creeper.

JOHN LONGBOTTOM

FEEDER

THE BEST OF *(BMG)*

KKKK

NEWPORT ROCKERS UNVEIL IMAGINATIVELY-TITLED COMPILATION ALBUM

■ FEEDER ARE a band the music press makes little noise about, yet command a large, loyal and engaged audience. The latter is worth a lot more than the former, but one consequence of this is that only hardcore fans register the band's more recent output. This is a shame, because mainman Grant Nicholas remains one the country's most fluent and adaptable songwriters, and even after 25 years is able to surprise. That's confirmed by Arrow, the new album available as part of the mammoth 50-track deluxe version of this collection. So alongside Top 5 single Buck Rogers, and Paperweight from last year's All Bright Electric, you get the likes of Figure You Out, the calibre of which suggests Feeder's best days may still be ahead of them.

DOWNLOAD: Figure You Out.

FOR FANS OF: Placebo, Muse.

IAN WINWOOD

MAKEOUT

THE GOOD LIFE *(RISE)*

KK

POP-PUNK PROTÉGÉS TAKE UNNECESSARILY CHEAP SHOTS ON DEBUT

■ MUSIC DOESN'T need another poorly educated pop-punk band, but it appears these Rhode Island kids missed that particular memo. Delivering a debut that puts the *no* in no-brainer, they seem to be of the mistaken opinion that lazy misogyny is acceptable if you pair it with an acoustic guitar. Secrets is shamefully bitter, with vocalist Sam Boxold dishing out digs at the '*fucking whore*' that spurned him. Elsewhere John Feldmann's touch ensures Makeout's melodies swoon with the style of All Time Low, with licks of gloss giving the illusion of maturity. Sadly, the record's quest for vengeance does little to move the genre along. The Good Life is one we've experienced a dozen times before.

DOWNLOAD: You Can't Blame Me.

FOR FANS OF: All Time Low, 5 Seconds Of Summer.

JESSICA BRIDGEMAN

NEW K! TRACKS

1 ARCANE ROOTS – INDIGO
This lovely cut from the trio's latest record is like being hugged by a mate who's both brainy and brawny.

2 MILK TEETH – NEARBY CATFIGHT
Milk Teeth brandish their claws on latest EP, Go Away, as this calling card suggests. Meow!

3 THE XCERTS – DAYDREAM
Murray and co. continue on their quest to be the UK's answer to the E Street Band (yep, it's that damn good).

4 ROAM – ALIVE
We're Eastbourne and down with these pop-punks, and their latest tune is as plucky as we've come to expect.

5 JAMIE LENMAN – HARDBEAT
The ex-Reuben man straps on his dancing shoes for a spot of leg-shaking.

THE VIRGINMARYS

SITTING DUCKS *(SELF-RELEASED)*

KKKK

MACCLESFIELD COOL-CATS RELEASE DEFT AND DANCEABLE FOUR-TRACK EP

■ THERE ARE few things more satisfying than a band delivering a pleasant surprise. Listeners familiar with The Virginmarys, particularly last year's Divides album, would be forgiven for believing this EP would continue to conform to the rich if familiar seams of strong songwriting, high-energy and punk rock style. These Macclesfield lads haven't eschewed any of these qualities here, but have added a number of beats suited to danceability – the thrust of which gives the music a sexual edge. This point is particularly well made on the EP's filthy title-track, not to mention the irresistible Sweet Loretta, while not forgetting the post-coital Sleep. A fine collection from a superior band.

DOWNLOAD: Sweet Loretta.

FOR FANS OF: Foo Fighters, The Struts.

IAN WINWOOD

KADAVAR

ROUGH TIMES *(NUCLEAR BLAST)*

KKK

GERMAN PSYCH ROCK TRIO CRANK UP THE FUZZ ON FOURTH ALBUM

■ YOU GET the impression Kadavar are the sort of chaps you find in record shop basements, scouring dusty boxes for first pressings of obscure space rock recordings. Their brainwashing Sabbath-ian blues hued with the rainbow of '70s prog and krautrock. This time, the heavy parts feel even heavier, with Into The Wormhole and Skeleton Blues toying with the gravity-defying apocalyptic doom of Electric Wizard, before mellowing into slower, drawn-out cosmic jams on The Lost Child and A L'Ombre Du Temps. There's even some Monster Magnet-like numbers, where pop songs disguise themselves as late-night campfire tales. Clearly, the Germans have many sides – all of which sound killer.

DOWNLOAD: Skeleton Blues.

FOR FANS OF: Black Sabbath, Electric Wizard, Sleep.

AMIT SHARMA

WHEN AIRBOURNE first emerged via their Runnin' Wild debut in 2007, it was to some amusement. They were from Australia, they played rock'n'roll with its brains permanently lodged in its trousers, and they sang songs about enjoying the delights of boozing, bonking, and acting like a baboon. "They are," one senior K! staffer chuckled as they slid the CD into the stereo, noting all of this, "basically just AC/DC."

But, like AC/DC, while Airbourne's formula at first appears no more complicated than spilling your pint, it's proven strong enough to fill four absolutely raging albums, the first three of which are gathered together on the four-disc **DIAMOND CUTS (KKKK)** set. Taking in Runnin' Wild, 2010's No Guts. No Glory. and 2013's Black Dog Barking, as well as a bonus

disc of off-cuts and a DVD documentary, you get an awful lot of Airbourne for your buck. That debut remains an excited rush of pissed-up, balls-out rock a decade after its release; No Guts. No Glory. is an even more excited, even more pissed-up dose of balls-out rock (despite its poorly-punctuated title giving the impression that the record contains neither guts *nor* glory); and Black Dog Barking is a supremely excited, pissed-u... Well, they're not breaking the mould. But then, when you're as good as this at putting a gigantic, guitar-shaped boot up people's arses, why on Earth would you want to go and mess with success?

WORDS: NICK RUSKELL

KLOBBER

MUST HAVES

ALL THE BEST GEAR FROM THE FOUR CORNERS OF PLANET ROCK AND BEYOND!

Settle the argument about who is the biggest Weezer fan with this Universe Package celebrating the Kerrang! cover stars' new album Pacific Daydream.
$130 (£96.33) Weezerwebstore.com

It's not Christmas yet, but it *is* getting cold. And puns are great all year round. Combine function with fun and you get this rad reindeer sweater.
£19.99 Emp.co.uk

Seeing as you're reading this, your feline friends are probably already pretty punk rock. But are they cute-af-Misfits-collar punk rock?
$22.99 (£17.04) Rockabilia.com

Pick up this Donnie B cap and you'll be wanting to wear it eight days a week, sucka, EIGHT DAYS A WEEK!
£17.99 Donbroco.bigcartel.com

Ever wondered what Brendon Urie wore under those Kinky Boots? These super-comfy crew socks! Really helped with breaking them in…
$9.90 (£7.34) Hottopic.com

This T-shirt speaks to us in ways we can't even begin to explain. Good thing it says it all in big white printed letters, then…
£15.30 Etsy.com

This Eleven Funko is giving us life while we wait for Stranger Things season two. Better still – it won't leave your bank account in the Upside Down.
£10.99 Emp.co.uk

Only Death Is Real? Shatter that illusion with this sweet Stray From The Path long-sleeve that's 100 per cent real cotton and 100 per cent hardcore.
£22.99 Impericon.com

Snuggle up to Alex, Jack, Zack and Rian every day with this super-soft All Time Low cushion. If you hate 'em? Cheap punching bag. Everyone wins.
£24.99 Bluebanana.com

Stay warm, look cool, rep Slipknot and still have your fingers free to flick through Kerrang!. What more could you ask for?
£12 T-shirtzone.co.uk

Just in case there's any doubt about your musical allegiances, this guitar pin will provide the final touch to any gig-ready get-up.
£2.75 Loudshop.com

GET IN THE MOSH-KNIT!

BYE-BYE SUNSHINE AND HELLO DARKNESS, OUR OLD FRIEND. ALAS. THE TIME HAS COME TO BREAKOUT A WHOLE NEW COLD-WEATHER WARDROBE. *BURRR...*

Okay, so twenty one pilots aren't the most goth of bands, but this snapback is stylish and cool and, basically, you need it in your life.
£24.99 Grindstore.com

Because who *doesn't* love summoning demons with their mates when they're bored?
£16.99 8ball.co.uk

Nothing screams death metal more than pink polyester with rainbows on. So why not show off your devotion to the dark side with these lovely leggings?
£35.20 Redbubble.com

Fifty per cent of profits from In Music We Trust products are currently going to mental health charity Mind. Get involved.
£10 Inmusicwetrust.co.uk

Fact: you cannot have too many Beartooth T-shirts in your collection. And this is one of the best there is.
£16.99 Backstreetmerch.com

On a scale of 0 – 666, how evil would you say you are? Get yourself maxed-out with this well evil sew-on patch.
$3.50 (£2.59) Angryyoungandpoor.com

Years of practice? Pah! Buy these guitar picks and improve your chances of playing *exactly* like James Hetfield within seconds. Ahem.
£5.19 Allposters.co.uk

Rock'n'rolling all night and partying everyday can be treacherous bizniz when the wind and rain is a daily fixture. Keep the demon cold away with this badass KISS mask!
£12.99 Emp.co.uk

Black metal and knitwear go hand-in-hand. Everyone worth their *svlt* knows that. Not only will this Abbath jumper make you the envy of the scene, it will mean your nan doesn't have to slave over a hot yarn and spool this year.
£44.27 Kingsroadmerch.com

Some will argue that this is a Christmas jumper. To those people we say, 'Bah, humbug!' Because why *can't* we wear Deathbat 666 sweaters as soon as festival season is over?
£39.99 Grindstore.com

Pizzas, pentagrams and not being cold are three things everyone can get behind. Unless you're a super Christian Eskimo, allergic to cheese. In which case, this isn't for you.
£7.99 Grindstore.com

For when you still want to listen to music outside, but you don't want to get your ears cold. These earmuff headphones have got you covered.
£4.12 Wordans.co.uk

The nights might be getting darker, but that doesn't mean your clothes have to. Stand out from any crowd with this very yellow beanie of Adventure Time's Jake.
£17.99 Emp.co.uk

THE BRITISH SOUND PROJECT

THE BEST OF BRIT ROCK IS HEADING TO MANCHESTER – AND DEAF HAVANA CAN'T WANT TO PARTY WITH TWIN ATLANTIC AND MALLORY KNOX…

WORDS: DAN SLESSOR **PHOTO:** NADINE BALLANTYNE

HEY, JAMES! DEAF HAVANA ARE CO-HEADLINING MANCHESTER'S BIGGEST INDOOR MUSIC FESTIVAL, THE BRITISH SOUND PROJECT. WHAT'S THE IDEA BEHIND THIS PROJECT?
JAMES VECK-GILODI (*VOCALS/GUITAR*): "I have no idea (*laughs*). And I'm deadly serious about that – I probably should have researched that, shouldn't I?!"

UM, YEAH. BASICALLY, YOU'RE PLAYING THIS MASSIVE SHOW WITH MALLORY KNOX, TWIN ATLANTIC, LONELY THE BRAVE AND LOADS MORE ACE BRITISH BANDS…
"Oh yeah, *that*! I actually really am looking forward to that. The line-up's sick! Lonely The Brave are playing, who are really good friends of ours, and Fatherson are a really good band who are playing, too."

HAVE YOU HAD ANY LONG, DRUNKEN NIGHTS WITH ANY OF THOSE BANDS?
"Yeah! Ages ago, when we released Old Souls [in 2013], it charted at number nine. We celebrated and went out, and Sam [Douglas, bass] from Mallory Knox was with us. Tom [Ogden, Deaf Havana drummer] and I left our bags in the car, and they got stolen. We got really moody, so we got *absolutely* trollied, went out and went mental, and Sam stayed with us drinking until about 6am. Then he had to go and do a cover shoot for a magazine at 9am, so he slept for maybe one hour. If you ever see that cover you'll know exactly what I mean – it's *hilarious*!"

OUCH. IS THERE ANY DANGER OF A REPEAT PERFORMANCE AFTER THE SHOW, THEN?
"If he's up for it – we're always up for kidnapping people and ruining their next day!"

IF YOU HAD TO ENTER INTO SOME KIND OF TOURNAMENT AGAINST ALL OF THE OTHER BANDS ON THE BILL, WHAT GAME WOULD DEAF HAVANA BEAT EVERYONE AT?
"Well, two of us are good at football, but I don't even understand the rules, so that would be awful… We're pretty good at beer pong! Actually, we could win at any drinking game. Or just a drinking contest – we'd definitely win that!"

> ***"I DREAMT I WAS FILLING IN ON GUITAR FOR SKINDRED!"***
> **JAMES VECK-GILODI**

SOUNDS MESSY. HAVE YOU EVER DREAMT THAT YOU'RE ONSTAGE OPENING A SHOW, AND YOU REALISE IT'S SLAYER AND THEIR FANS AREN'T HAPPY TO SEE YOU?
"Yes! That's a recurring dream I have. I also often dream that I totally forget what I'm doing when I'm up onstage – but then I realise that's actually me when I play live, because I *always* forget words! I also once dreamt that I was filling in on guitar for Skindred – and I hadn't learned any of the songs, so I went out onstage not having any idea what I was doing. I have a lot of horrible dreams like that!"

EEEEESH! ON A LESS SCARY NOTE, WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR THE COMING MONTHS?
"I think I'm just going to write, because we don't want to leave it that long before we release another record – I think we're aiming for next summer. I think I'll spend the entirety of this October trying to rip off bands that are better than us (*laughs*)."

HAVE YOU WRITTEN ANYTHING YET, THEN, OR ARE YOU STARTING FROM SCRATCH?
"I have written a lot of stuff, but I change my mind so much. It tends to depend on what bands we're touring with or listening to. When we toured with Kings Of Leon, I basically wrote four songs that sound like Kings Of Leon. Then the Brand New record [Science Fiction] came out and I wrote a song that sounds *exactly* like Brand New! I just don't know what I want, and I always go through this – I'll write a million different songs and then have to hone it in. I have to wade through a lot of shit to get to the good songs."

DATES: The British Sound Project @ Manchester Victoria Hall September 29 – 30.

YOUR WEEK!

KERRANG! DAY SEPTEMBER 27

BIRMINGHAM Trash Boat, Broadside, Homebound (O2 Institute3 Birmingham)
BRIGHTON Mayday Parade, With Confidence, All Get Out (Concorde 2)
CARDIFF Sundara Karma, The Magic Gang (Tramshed)
DERBY Frontierer, Taken By The Tide, The Predecessors (Hairy Dog)
GLASGOW Car Bomb, Circuit Of Suns, Gendo Ikari, Somaesthesia (Cathouse)
GLASGOW New Found Glory, ROAM (O2 ABC Glasgow)
LONDON Frank Iero And The Patience, Dave Hause & The Mermaid, The Homeless Gospel Choir, Paceshifters (Dome, Tufnell Park)
LONDON Third Eye Blind, Seafret (Roundhouse, Camden)
MANCHESTER Bush, RavenEye (O2 Ritz Manchester)
MANCHESTER I Am Giant, New Volume, LVPO, With The Wolves (Rebellion)
MANCHESTER Turnover, Emotional, Palladino (Sound Control)
MANCHESTER Waterparks, Chapel, The Bottom Line (Academy 3)
NEWCASTLE Blessthefall, Blood Youth (Think Tank?)
PORTSMOUTH Airbourne, The Electric Shakes (Pyramids Centre)
SHEFFIELD Anathema, Alcest (Plug)

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 28

BRISTOL Anathema, Alcest (Marble Factory)
BRISTOL Turnover, Emotional, Palladino (Fleece)
GLASGOW Third Eye Blind, Silversun Pickups (Òran Mór)
HULL Twin Atlantic (University Union)
LEEDS Fatherson (Lending Room)
LONDON Frontierer (Crowndale)
LONDON Waterparks, Chapel, The Bottom Line (Underworld, Camden)
LONDON Winterfylleth, Wiegedood, Necronautical (Boston Music Room)
MANCHESTER Car Bomb, Circuit Of Suns, Sworn Amongst (Rebellion)
MANCHESTER Machine Gun Kelly (O2 Ritz Manchester)
NEWCASTLE New Found Glory, ROAM (O2 Academy Newcastle)
SHEFFIELD I Am Giant, New Volume (Corporation)
SOUTHAMPTON Mayday Parade, With Confidence, All Get Out (Engine Rooms)

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 29

BIRMINGHAM Slotface, Jump The Shark (Actress & Bishop)
BIRMINGHAM Waterparks, Chapel, The Bottom Line (O2 Academy2 Birmingham)
BRIDGWATER I Am Giant, New Volume (Cobblestones)
BRIGHTON The Xcerts, Big Spring, Wild Cat Strike (Haunt)
BRISTOL Mayday Parade, With Confidence, All Get Out (O2 Academy Bristol)
CARDIFF Winterfylleth, Wiegedood, Necronautical (Fuel Rock Club)
EXETER Anathema, Alcest (Phoenix)
LONDON Black Foxxes (Dome, Tufnell Park)
LONDON Satyricon, Suicidal Angels, Fight The Fight (Heaven)
LONDON Turnover, Emotional, Palladino (Islington Assembly Hall)
MANCHESTER Blessthefall, Blood Youth, Scream Blue Murder (Rebellion)
MANCHESTER New Found Glory, ROAM (Academy)
MANCHESTER Third Eye Blind, Alvarez Kings (Academy 2)
MANCHESTER Twin Atlantic, Deaf Havana, Band of Skulls (DJ set), Lonely The Brave, Fatherson, Sittin Pretty (The British Sound Project @ Victoria Warehouse)
SOUTHAMPTON Sundara Karma, The Magic Gang, Bloxx (1865)
SOUTHAMPTON SWMRS, The Regrettes (Joiners)

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 30

BIRMINGHAM All Them Witches, The Ghost Wolves (O2 Institute3 Birmingham)
BIRMINGHAM New Found Glory, ROAM (O2 Academy Birmingham)
BRIGHTON Waterparks, Chapel, The Bottom Line (Haunt)
BRISTOL Machine Gun Kelly (O2 Academy Bristol)
LEEDS SWMRS, The Regrettes (Key Club)
LONDON Anathema, Alcest (O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire)
LONDON Kadavar (Dome, Tufnell Park)
LONDON Mayday Parade, With Confidence, All Get Out (O2 Forum Kentish Town)
MANCHESTER WSTR, Weatherstate, Tuskens, Martyr Defiled, Coast To Coast, Carcer City, Continents, Borders, Catch Fire, Montroze, Better Than Never, All At Sea, I Cried Wolf, Valliers, From Inside, Everyday Sidekicks, Recovery, Kamikaze Girls, Dearist (Deadbolt Festival @ various venues)
MANCHESTER Winterfylleth, Wiegedood, Necronautical (Rebellion)
NOTTINGHAM Blessthefall, Blood Youth, The Five Hundred (Rescue Rooms)
NOTTINGHAM Sundara Karma, The Magic Gang (Rock City)
NOTTINGHAM The Xcerts (Bodega)

SUNDAY OCTOBER 01

BRISTOL Brutus (Exchange)
GLASGOW SWMRS, The Regrettes (Stereo)
GLASGOW Winterfylleth, Wiegedood, Necronautical (Audio)
LEEDS The Xcerts, Airways, The Spitfires (Brudenell Social Club)
MANCHESTER All Them Witches, The Ghost Wolves (Sound Control)
MANCHESTER Shields, Junior, Carbine, Holding Absence, Inklings, Call Me Amour, Home Wrecked, Veridian, Parting Gift, Autumn Ruin, You Know The Drill, Deadset Dream, As December Falls, Better Days, Cove (Deadbolt Festival @ various venues)

MONDAY OCTOBER 02

BIRMINGHAM Winterfylleth, Wiegedood, Necronautical (Mama Roux's)
GLASGOW Frontierer, Lotus Eater (Audio)
LEEDS New Found Glory, ROAM (O2 Academy Leeds)
LONDON Blessthefall, Blood Youth (Underworld, Camden)
NOTTINGHAM SWMRS (Bodega)
NORWICH The Amazons (Waterfront)

TUESDAY OCTOBER 03

BRISTOL Blessthefall, Blood Youth (Fleece)
CARDIFF Thy Art Is Murder, After The Burial, Oceano (Y Stiwdio, Cardiff University)
GLASGOW Saint Vitus (Audio)
MANCHESTER Citizen (Deaf Institute)
MANCHESTER Sundara Karma, The Magic Gang (Academy)
NORWICH In Hearts Wake (Waterfront Studio)
NOTTINGHAM New Found Glory, ROAM (Rock City)
SHEFFIELD The Amazons (Leadmill)

RIDER OF THE WEEK

BAND: Casey

The Kerrang! Tour 2017 openers don't want much, then. Will one of those Old El Paso kits be alright? We're on a budget here...

CASEY

We wanna make Casey-dillas in the dressing room, so:
1 x heavy-bottomed, cast iron frying pan
1 x camping stove or electric hob
1 x chef's knife
4 x big handfuls of grated cheddar or Red Leicester cheese
A few spring onions
4 x handfuls of fresh coriander
2 x red peppers
A few red or green chillies
1 x fresh lime
Tortillas
Guacamole – to serve
Sour cream – to serve
Beer – preferably Corona – to serve
1 x copy of Ghost Rider on DVD (not related to the above – just wanna laugh at Nicolas Cage)

CAN'T GET TO A GIG?

THEN HERE'S SOME OTHER STUFF TO KEEP YOUR EYES/EARS BUSY

FIGHTKLUB! MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE VS. PARAMORE

K! TV, OCTOBER 1, 4PM

It's time to dig out those studded belts, thick, black eyeliner and re-grow that big ol' fringe, because we're going full emo again. Well, we say 'again' – we never actually stopped.

WATCH THE MAKING OF THE NEW FOO FIGHTERS ALBUM, CONCRETE AND GOLD

KERRANG.COM

So, Foos' ninth album has entered our lives, and we're pretty stoked on it. It looks like the band are, too, having released a hilarious animated video about how it all came together. It's basically Dave Grohl showing off how many of his cool friends are on the record. Fair enough, Mr. Popular.

NINETY-NINE '00S TUNES THAT YOU CAN'T ESCAPE

K! TV, SEPTEMBER 29, 9AM

This is a real nostalgia fest. So much so, in fact, that you'll be digging out your old collection of Pogs. Do you remember those? If you don't then you can't really call yourself a '90s kid at all...

MY FIRST GIG

WHO: ENTER SHIKARI, CARLING ACADEMY, LIVERPOOL, 2006

GLOWSTICKS, CROWD-SURFING AND RAINING SWEAT? YEAH, THAT'S A PRETTY STANDARD SHIKARI SHOW...

HENRY COX, BOSTON MANOR

"Seeing Enter Shikari for my first gig was sick, and it's still one of the best gigs I've ever been to. It was right before their debut album [Take To The Skies, 2007] dropped, and a friend of mine had played me an EP. They were a very different-sounding band: they were very raw and fresh, and unlike anything I'd ever heard. I was *pumped* leading up to it.

"Liverpool's quite a long way from [my hometown of] Blackpool, but my dad drove me and my friend there, and picked us up after so we could go to the show! It was a punk show, basically, and people went wild. It was the first time I had been exposed to something like that firsthand, and of course there were *lots* of glowsticks! The band had them on their guitar heads, they were being thrown around, kids had brought their own, too, and obviously people were breaking them and throwing the liquid everywhere.

"The sheer energy of the show has never left me. It was such a small stage and they were right there in front of us. When you're 14 you think of bands as people being so far removed from your life. You see the big rock bands on TV with a 60-foot photo pit and a ton of security, but Shikari were right there getting in our faces. They broke down all barriers, and the thing I most remember is that there was quite a low ceiling in the venue, and I could see the sweat condensing and dripping down. It got so bad that Rory Clewlow's guitar pedals stopped working, and I thought that was fucking *sick!*"

WORDS: DAN SLESSOR **PHOTO:** CHRIS CASEY

MY VENUE

REDRUM

STAFFORD

36 CRABBERY STREET, STAFFORD, ST16 2BA

NEIL SIMONS & SOPHIE GREEN, OWNERS & PROMOTERS

HEY, GUYS! COULD YOU TELL US A BRIEF HISTORY OF REDRUM?

"We only opened Redrum in July 2017. On our opening weekend we hosted two sold-out gigs with Allusondrugs and Big D And The Kids Table. Within the past year the music scene has grown in the town, and with an opening coming up for a bigger venue, we took a leap of faith and opened up Redrum."

HAS IT BECOME AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE LOCAL SCENE?

"We feel the venue has become important to the local area. There hasn't really been a venue in town other than local pubs. The difference in the local music scene from when we opened and now is astonishing. We have been able to give local bands the chance to play with some awesome, established touring bands, which encourages new ones to form. One of the highlights for me is the hope that we may play a part in uncovering the next Nirvana when we have bands play their first gigs at the bar."

SOUNDS EXCITING! WHAT HAVE BEEN THE BEST ROCK AND METAL SHOWS YOU'VE PUT ON SINCE OPENING?

"We've had some awesome punk rock shows with CJ Ramone and Big D And The Kids Table. The atmosphere between the bands and the sold-out crowds has never been beaten, and they've been nights to remember. They also highlight the standard of bands and gigs we are putting on. From our short tenancy at Redrum we have managed to build a good reputation from touring bands."

HAVE YOU BEEN USING THE VENUE FOR ANYTHING ELSE OTHER THAN GIGS?

"The two-storey venue has bars on both floors, and at the moment we open up for club nights where we serve cocktails – hosting a very popular rock night with our Resident Rock DJ Rich Hall & Ozzy Maidenfield from Midlands Metalheads. We are also putting on special themed events for nights such as Hallowe'en due to the history of the building, as it's one of the oldest in Stafford."

WHAT CHALLENGES DO YOU FACE WITHIN THE CURRENT ECONOMIC CLIMATE?

"The main challenge is to make the Stafford music scene as healthy as possible and to establish ourselves as a great live music venue. We want every gig to be talked about and for Redrum to be known for great line-ups and an exciting atmosphere."

FINALLY, WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR THE VENUE?

"We want to work with the community to create a place for people of all ages to enjoy music of all genres, and for new bands starting out as well. We'd like to add to our Ghostbusters pinball machine and incorporate an arcade to the venue. Oh, and we'd like to keep on putting on a load more awesome gigs."

BOOKING NOW

AIRBOURNE
O2 Academy Bristol November 11, O2 Academy Glasgow 13, Manchester Academy 14, London Camden Roundhouse 15, Norwich UEA 18, O2 Academy Oxford 19, O2 Academy Sheffield 20, Nottingham Rock City 22.

ALIEN ANT FARM
O2 Academy Bristol February 6, 2018, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 7, O2 Ritz Manchester 8, Norwich Waterfront 10, O2 Academy Leeds 11, Birmingham O2 Institute 12, Dublin Academy 14, Belfast Limelight II 15, Glasgow Garage 16, O2 Academy Newcastle 17, Nottingham Rock City 18. Support: SOiL, Local H.

ALL TIME LOW
Glasgow SECC March 12, 2018, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 14, Birmingham Genting Arena 15, Manchester Arena 16, London Alexandra Palace 17. Support: Pierce The Veil.

ALTER BRIDGE
London Royal Albert Hall October 2 – 3, Edinburgh Usher Hall 5, Dublin Olympia 7, Belfast Ulster Hall 8. Support: As Lions (5 – 8).

AND SO I WATCH YOU FROM AFAR
London Camden KOKO November 23, Manchester Academy II 24, Glasgow Oran Mor 25, Bristol Thekla 26.

ARCANE ROOTS
London King's Cross Scala October 5, Wolverhampton Slade Rooms 6, Manchester Academy III 7, Glasgow King Tut's 8, Belfast Empire Music Hall 9, Dublin Whelan's 11, Liverpool Arts Club 13, Brighton Haunt 14, Bristol Fleece 15, Leeds Key Club October 17, Edinburgh Mash House 18, Nottingham Rock City Basement 19, Peterborough Met Lounge 20, Stoke Sugarmill 21, Guildford Boileroom 22.

ARCH ENEMY
O2 ABC Glasgow February 9, 2018, Nottingham Rock City 10, London Camden KOKO 11, O2 Ritz Manchester 13, O2 Academy Bristol 14. Support: Wintersun, Tribulation.

ARCHITECTS
London Alexandra Palace February 3, 2018. Support: While She Sleeps, Counterparts.

AT THE DRIVE IN
London O2 Academy Brixton March 9, 2018, O2 Academy Newcastle 10, O2 Academy Birmingham 12, O2 Apollo Manchester 13, O2 Academy Glasgow 15. Support: Death From Above, Le Butcherettes.

BRAND NEW
London O2 Academy Brixton November 18, O2 Academy Glasgow 19.

THE BRITISH SOUND PROJECT
Line-up: Mallory Knox, Twin Atlantic, Deaf Havana, Lonely The Brave, Pulled Apart By Horses, Fatherson and more! Manchester Victoria Warehouse September 29.

BURY TOMORROW
Dover Booking Hall October 19, Southend Chinnerys 20, Brighton Concorde2 21, Norwich Waterfront Studio 22, Peterborough Met Lounge 24, Doncaster Vintage Bar 25, York Fibbers 26, Middlesbrough Empire 27, Aberdeen Tunnels 28, Edinburgh Mash House 29, Carlisle Brickyard 31, Huddersfield Parish November 1, O2 Academy2 Liverpool 2, Stoke Sugarmill 3, Milton Keynes Craufurd Arms 4, Worcester Marrs Bar 5, O2 Academy2 Oxford 7, Bridgend Hobos 9, Exeter Phoenix 10, Plymouth Underground 11, Bournemouth Anvil 12 (two shows). Support: Loathe.

COUNTERPARTS
Brighton Patterns November 11, Cardiff Clwb Ifor Bach 12, Doncaster Vintage Bar 13, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 14, Glasgow G2 15, Manchester Rebellion 16, Newcastle Think Tank? 17, London Dome Tufnell Park 18, Southampton Joiners 19. Support: Polar, Napoleon.

CRADLE OF FILTH
Belfast Limelight October 30, Dublin Academy 31, Manchester O2 Academy2 November 2, Glasgow Garage 3, Birmingham O2 Institute 4, Leeds Church 5, Oxford O2 Academy 7, Southampton Engine Rooms 8, Northampton Waterfront 9, London Electric Ballroom 10, Bristol Bierkeller 11. Support: Savage Messiah.

CREEPER
O2 ABC Glasgow December 3, O2 Institute Birmingham 4, Bristol Trinity 5, London O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire 7, Manchester Albert Hall 9, O2 Guildhall Southampton 10. Support: Can't Swim, Microwave, Nervus.

DAMNATION FESTIVAL
Line-up: Paradise Lost, Bloodbath, Sodom, Dying Fetus, Warning, Agoraphobic Nosebleed, Nails, Nordic Giants, Myrkur, Pallbearer, Leprous, Psychedelic Witchcraft, Vallenfyre, Grave Pleasures, Wren, Beyond Creation, PG Lost, Mutation, Wiegedood, Disentomb, Leng Tch'e, Psycroptic. Leeds University Union November 4.

THE DAMNED
O2 Academy Newcastle January 26, 2018, Dundee Caird Hall 27, O2 Academy Glasgow 28, O2 Academy Leeds 30, Manchester Academy 31, O2 Academy Birmingham February 1, O2 Academy Leicester 3, Nottingham Rock City 4, Folkestone Leas Cliff Hall 6, Southend Cliffs Pavilion 7, Cardiff Great Hall 9, O2 Academy Bristol 10, O2 Academy Bournemouth 11, O2 Guildhall Southampton 13, Bexhill De La Warr Pavilion 14, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 17.

THE DARKNESS
O2 Guildhall Southampton November 23, Manchester Academy 24, Blackburn King George's Hall 25, O2 Academy Leeds 27, O2 Academy Newcastle 28, O2 Academy Glasgow 29, Stoke Victoria Hall December 1, Nottingham Rock City 2, Norwich UEA 3, Guildford G Live 5, Margate Winter Gardens 6, Southend Cliffs Pavilion 7, O2 Academy Birmingham 9, London Eventim Apollo Hammersmith 10, Brighton Dome 11, Cardiff St David's Hall 13, Bristol Colston Hall 14.

DEAF HAVANA
Brighton Concorde 2 November 9, Southampton Engine Rooms 10, Cambridge Junction 12, Bath Komedia 13, Coventry Kasbah 14, Leeds Beckett University 15, Nottingham Rock City 17, O2 Academy Liverpool 18, Aberdeen Garage 20, Edinburgh Queen's Hall 21, Newcastle Northumbria University 22, Cardiff Y Plas 24, Exeter Lemon Grove 25. Support: Black Foxxes, Decade.

DON BROCO
London Alexandra Palace November 11. Support: State Champs, Counterfeit.

DRAGONFORCE
Glasgow Garage October 4, Newcastle Riverside 5, York Fibbers 6, Sheffield Corporation 7, Manchester Sound Control 8, O2 Academy2 Birmingham 11, Cardiff Globe 12, London Camden Electric Ballroom 13, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 14, Tunbridge Wells Forum 15.

EMP PERSISTENCE TOUR
Line-up: Hatebreed, Madball, Terror, Power Trip, Broken Teeth, Insanity Alert. London O2 Forum Kentish Town January 28, 2018.

EMPLOYED TO SERVE
Brighton Hope & Ruin November 3, Oxford Wheatsheaf 4, Leeds Temple Of Boom 5, Newcastle Underground 6, Manchester Rebellion 7, Birmingham Flapper 8, Nottingham Bodega 9, Edinburgh Opium 10, London Dome 11.

ENTER SHIKARI
Liverpool Echo Arena November 16, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 17, Nottingham Motorpoint Arena 18, Newcastle Metro Radio Arena 19, Manchester Victoria Warehouse 21, Brighton Centre 22, Birmingham Barclaycard Arena 24, London Alexandra Palace 25. Support: Lower Than Atlantis, Astroid Boys.

EVANESCENCE
London Royal Festival Hall March 30 – 31, 2018, O2 Apollo Manchester 2, Nottingham Arena 3, Glasgow Armadillo 5, Sheffield City Hall 6.

EVERY TIME I DIE
Newcastle Riverside November 11, Aberdeen Tunnels 12, Glasgow Garage 13, Dublin Opium 14, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 15, London Camden KOKO 24, Brighton Concorde 2 25, Bristol Bierkeller 26, O2 Institute2 Birmingham 27, Manchester Academy2 28. Support: Comeback Kid (except 11 – 15), Knocked Loose, Higher Power.

FALL OUT BOY
London Brixton Electric January 11, 2018.

FEEDER
O2 Academy Bristol March 7, 2018, Norwich Nick Rayns LCR UEA 8, Manchester Academy 10, Glasgow Barrowland 11, O2 Academy Leeds 13, O2 Academy Birmingham 14, Nottingham Rock City 16, London O2 Academy Brixton 17.

JUST ANNOUNCED

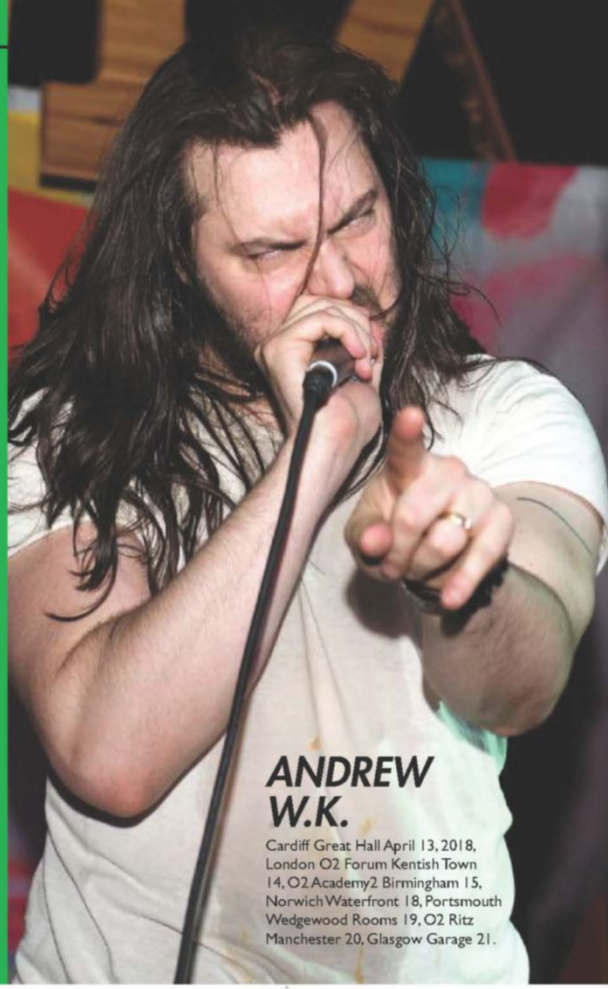


PHOTO: GETTY

ANDREW W.K.

Cardiff Great Hall April 13, 2018, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 14, O2 Academy2 Birmingham 15, Norwich Waterfront 18, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 19, O2 Ritz Manchester 20, Glasgow Garage 21.

BAD OMENS
Plymouth Underground October 25, Birmingham Flapper 26, Dundee Deacon Brodies 27, Manchester Satans Hollow 28, London Boston Music Room 29.

BOWLING FOR SOUP
O2 Academy Glasgow February 9, 2018, O2 Academy Newcastle 10, O2 Academy Sheffield 11, Nottingham Rock City 12, O2 Academy Birmingham 13, Norwich UEA 14, O2 Apollo Manchester 15, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 16, London O2 Academy Brixton 17. Supports: The Aquabats!, Army Of Freshmen.

COURAGE MY LOVE
Birmingham Flapper November 21, Glasgow Garage Attic 22, Leeds Key Club 23, Newcastle Jumpin' Jacks 24, Sheffield Corporation 25, Manchester Aatma 26, Milton Keynes Craufurd Arms 27, London Borderline 28, Bristol Thekla 29, Plymouth Underground 30, Southampton Joiners December 1. Support: Chapter And Verse.

DESERTFEST 2018
Line-up: Monster Magnet, Nebula, Eyehategod, Jex Thoth, Planet Of Zeus, Black Moth, The Black Wizards. London Camden May 4 – 6 @ various venues.

MOTIONLESS IN WHITE
Supports added: Cane Hill, Ice Nine Kills.

PRESS TO MECO
Brighton Hope And Ruin November 21, O2 Academy3 Oxford 22, Leeds Key Club 25, Newcastle Jumpin' Jacks 27, Glasgow Nice N Sleazy 28, London Oslo December 18.

THE PRODIGY
O2 Apollo Manchester December 14, Doncaster Dome 15, Plymouth Pavilions 16, O2 Academy Glasgow 18, Wolverhampton Civic Hall 19, London O2 Academy Brixton 21 – 23.

PVRIS
Support added: COIN, Tyne.

SEAWAY
Bristol Exchange January 10, 2018, Nottingham Bodega 11, Leeds Key Club 12, Glasgow Stereo 13, Manchester Rebellion 14, O2 Institute3 Birmingham 15, Southampton Joiners 16, London Garage 17.

WITCHSORROW
Bristol Old England November 22, Edinburgh Bannerman's Bar 23, Coventry Phoenix 24, Brighton Riffmass 2017 @ Green Door Store 25, London Devonshire Arms 26.

FIREBALL FUELLING THE FIRE TOUR 2017
Line-up: Reel Big Fish, Anti-Flag, Mad Caddies, Sweet Little Machine. O2 Ritz Manchester October 11, O2 Academy Bristol 12, O2 Academy Leicester 13, O2 Academy Leeds 15, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 16 – 17, O2 Academy Newcastle 18, O2 Academy Glasgow 19, O2 Academy Liverpool 20, O2 Academy Sheffield 21.

FIVE FINGER DEATH PUNCH
Birmingham Barclaycard Arena December 17, Glasgow SSE Hydro Arena 18, Leeds First Direct Arena 20, London SSE Arena, Wembley 21. Support: In Flames, Of Mice & Men.

FOZZY
O2 Academy2 Birmingham October 27, Dublin Tivoli 28, Belfast Limelight II 29, Chester Live Rooms 31, Manchester Waterfront November 1, London O2 Academy Islington 2, Sheffield Corporation 3, Glasgow Garage 4, Newcastle Riverside 5.

FRANK CARTER & THE RATTLESNAKES
O2 Academy Bristol December 1, O2 Institute Birmingham 2, O2 Ritz Manchester 3, O2 ABC Glasgow 5, Nottingham Rock City 6, Norwich UEA 7, London O2 Academy Brixton 8. Support: Basement.

FRANK IERO AND THE PATIENCE
London Dome Tufnell Park September 27, Cardiff Globe October 8, Norwich Waterfront 9, Edinburgh La Belle Angele 11, Aberdeen Garage 12, Glasgow Garage 13, Sheffield Plug 15, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 16, Colchester Arts Centre 17, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 18, Wolverhampton 19, Aldershot West End Centre 20, London Omera 21. Support: Dave Hause, The Homeless Gospel Choir, Paceshifters.

GOOD CHARLOTTE
O2 Guildhall Southampton November 27, Nottingham Rock City 28, Glasgow Barrowland 30, O2 Academy Birmingham December 1, Manchester Academy 2, London O2 Academy Brixton 3. Support: Against The Current, Milk Teeth, nothing, nowhere..

HIM
Glasgow Barrowlands December 14, Nottingham Rock City 15, Manchester Academy 16, London Camden Roundhouse 17 – 19.

IN HEARTS WAKE
Norwich Waterfront Studio October 3, Birmingham Asylum 4, Cardiff Clwb Ifor Bach 5, London Underworld Camden 6, Southampton Joiners 7, Leeds Key Club 8, Newcastle Think Tank? 10, Glasgow Attic 11, Manchester Sound Control 12, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 13. Support: Gideon, Silent Screams.

KERRANG! TOUR 2017
Line-up: The Amity Affliction, Boston Manor, Vukovi, Casey. O2 Institute Birmingham December 5, Leeds Beckett University 6, O2 ABC Glasgow 7, O2 Ritz Manchester 8, Newcastle Uni 9, O2 Academy Dublin 11, Cardiff University Y Plas 12, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 13.

KVELERTAK
Brighton Haunt October 23, Newcastle Think Tank? 25, Sheffield Corporation 27, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 29. Support: Puppy.

LACUNA COIL
London O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire January 19, 2018.

LENMANIA
Line-up: Jamie Lenman, Employed To Serve, Palm Reader, Fizzy Blood, Bad Sign, In Dynamics, St Pierre Snake Invasion, Broker, Hannah Lou Clark. London Dome & Boston Music Rooms November 11.

MANCHESTER ORCHESTRA
Manchester O2 Academy2 October 21, Glasgow Garage 22, Leeds Church 23, Birmingham O2 Institute2 24, London O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire 26, Brighton Concorde 2 27, Bristol SWX 28. Support: Slothrust.

MARILYN MANSON
O2 Apollo Manchester December 4, O2 Academy Glasgow 5, Wolverhampton Civic Hall 6, Newport Centre 8, London SSE Arena, Wembley 9.

MARMOZETS
Hull Welly Club October 17, Middlesbrough Empire 18, Glasgow Saint Luke's 19, Leeds Brudenell Social Club 21, Manchester Academy3 22, O2 Academy2 Birmingham 23, London Garage 25, Norwich Arts Centre 27, Bristol Fleece 28, Bournemouth Old Fire Station 29, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 30.

MASTODON
Cardiff Great Hall December 2, Wolverhampton Civic Hall 4, Nottingham Rock City 5, Newcastle Northumbria Uni 6, Glasgow Barrowlands 7, Manchester Academy 9, London O2 Academy Brixton 10. Support: Red Fang, Russian Circles.

THE MENZINGERS
Dublin Whelans January 28, 2018, Belfast Limelight 29, Bristol SWX 31, Glasgow SWG3 February 1, O2 Ritz Manchester 2, London O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire 3. Support: PUP, Cayetana.

METALLICA
London O2 Arena October 22 and 24, Glasgow SSE Hydro 26, Manchester Arena 28, Birmingham Genting Arena 30. Support: Kvelertak.

MOTIONLESS IN WHITE
Southampton Engine Rooms January 18, 2018, O2 Academy Bristol 19, Leeds Stylus 20, Glasgow Garage 22, Newcastle Riverside 23, London KOKO Camden 25, O2 Institute Birmingham 26, O2 Ritz Manchester 27, Norwich Waterfront 28.

NAILS
Glasgow Cathouse November 3, London Underworld Camden 5.

NECK DEEP
O2 Academy Newcastle October 7, O2 Academy Glasgow 8, Nottingham Rock City 9, Norwich UEA 11, Cardiff Great Hall 12, London O2 Academy Brixton 13, O2 Apollo Manchester 14. Support: As It Is, Real Friends, Woes.

NEW FOUND GLORY
O2 ABC Glasgow September 27, O2 Academy Newcastle 28, Manchester Academy 29, O2 Academy Birmingham 30, O2 Academy Leeds October 2, Nottingham Rock City 3, O2 Academy Bristol 5, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 6, London Camden Electric Ballroom 7, London Camden Underworld 8. Support: ROAM.

NORTHLANE
London Electric Ballroom Camden November 25, Manchester Academy II 26, Glasgow Garage 27, O2 Academy2 Birmingham 28, Leeds Stylus 29, Bristol Marble Factory 30, Nottingham Rescue Rooms December 1. Support: Erra, Invent Animate, Ocean Grove.

NOTHING BUT THIEVES
O2 Academy Newcastle November 5, O2 Academy Glasgow 7, Manchester Albert Hall 8, Nottingham Rock City 10, O2 Academy Liverpool 11, O2 Academy Bristol 13, Norwich UEA 14, O2 Guildhall Southampton 15, London Camden Roundhouse 17. Support: Darlia, July Talk.

NOTHING MORE
London Dingwalls December 6, O2 Institute3 Birmingham 8, Glasgow Cathouse 9, Manchester Sound Control 10.

THE ONE HUNDRED
London Tufnell Park Dome October 13.

ONE OK ROCK
O2 ABC Glasgow December 11, Manchester Academy II 12, London O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire 13.

OPETH
O2 Ritz Manchester November 15, Glasgow Barrowlands 16, Belfast Limelight 17, Dublin Academy 18, Nottingham Rock City 19, O2 Academy Bristol 21, O2 Institute Birmingham 22. Support: Enslaved.

PAPA ROACH
O2 Academy Birmingham October 5, Nottingham Rock City 6, O2 Academy Glasgow 7, London O2 Academy Brixton 10, O2 Apollo Manchester 11.

PARAMORE
Cardiff Motorpoint Arena January 11, 2018, London O2 Arena 12, Birmingham Genting Arena 14, Manchester Arena 19, Glasgow SSE Hydro 20.

PLACEBO
Edinburgh Usher Hall October 7, Dundee Caird Hall 8, Doncaster Dome 10, Blackpool Empress Ballroom 11, Reading Rivermead 13, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 14, Portsmouth Guildhall 16, Swindon Oasis 17, Plymouth Pavilions 20, Wolverhampton Civic Hall 21, London O2 Academy Brixton 23.

PROPHETS OF RAGE
London O2 Forum Kentish Town November 13.

PVRIS
O2 Academy Bristol November 22, O2 Academy Birmingham 23, O2 Academy Glasgow 27, O2 Apollo Manchester 28, London O2 Academy Brixton 30.

QUEENS OF THE STONE AGE
London SSE Arena, Wembley November 18, Manchester Arena 19, London O2 Arena 21, Edinburgh Usher Hall 23, Dublin 3Arena 24.

QUICKSAND
Nottingham Rescue Rooms November 24, Manchester Sound Control 25, London O2 Academy Islington 26.

RAGE / FIREWIND
London Camden Underworld January 21, 2018, Sheffield Corporation 22.

RISE AGAINST
O2 Academy Birmingham November 1, O2 Apollo Manchester 2, O2 Academy Leeds 4, London O2 Academy Brixton 5, O2 Academy Newcastle 8. Support: Sleeping With Sirens.

ROLO TOMASSI
London Borderline November 4. Support: Conjurer.

ROYAL BLOOD
Cardiff Motorpoint Arena November 13, Reading Rivermead 14, Manchester Arena 16, Leeds First Direct Arena 17, Birmingham Barclaycard Arena 18, London Alexandra Palace 20 – 22, Glasgow SSE Hydro 24, Nottingham Motorpoint Arena 25, Dublin 3Arena 26, Bournemouth BIC 28, Brighton Centre 29. Support: At The Drive In, Black Honey.

ROYAL REPUBLIC
London Camden KOKO December 1.

SIKTH
Manchester Academy III December 2, Glasgow Garage 3, O2 Institute2 Birmingham 4, Bristol SWX 6, Brighton Concorde II 7, London Camden KOKO 8.

STICK TO YOUR GUNS
Nottingham Rescue Rooms November 27, Glasgow Garage 28, Manchester Club Academy 29, London O2 Academy Islington 30, O2 Institute2 Birmingham December 1. Support: Being As An Ocean, Silent Planet.

STONE SOUR
Birmingham Barclaycard Arena November 29, Leeds First Direct Arena 30, Brighton Centre December 1, London O2 Academy Brixton 4, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 5, London O2 Academy Brixton 6, Glasgow SSE Hydro 8. Support: The Pretty Reckless.

STRAY FROM THE PATH
London Camden Underworld October 5, Leeds Key Club 6, Glasgow G2 7, Manchester Rebellion 8, Cardiff Globe 9, Birmingham Mama Roux's 10.

SWMRS
Southampton Joiners September 29, Leeds Key Club 30, Glasgow Stereo October 1, Nottingham Bodega 2, Manchester Academy III 4, Birmingham Mama Roux's 5, London O2 Academy Islington 6, Liverpool Buyers Club 8, Dublin Fibbers Magee 9.

THY ART IS MURDER
Cardiff Uni October 3, Leeds Key Club 4, Glasgow Garage 5, Manchester Club Academy 6, O2 Academy2 Birmingham 7, London Electric Ballroom Camden 8, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 9. Support: After The Burial.

WEEZER
O2 Academy Leeds October 23, O2 Academy Glasgow 24, O2 Apollo Manchester 25, O2 Academy Birmingham 27, London SSE Arena, Wembley 28. Support: Ash.

WHILE SHE SLEEPS
O2 Academy Sheffield December 8.

WSTR
O2 Academy2 Liverpool October 31.

THE XCERTS
Brighton Haunt September 29, Nottingham Bodega 30, Leeds Brudenell Social Club October 1, Glasgow Saint Luke's 3, Aberdeen Tunnels 4, Newcastle Think Tank? 5, Bristol Exchange 8, Birmingham Flapper 9, London Scala 10.

IMPERICON

BEING AS AN OCEAN

WAITING FOR MORNING TO COME

GET YOUR SPECIAL PRE-ORDER PACK NOW

RELEASE DATE: 03.11.2017

IMPERICON.CO.UK
live your music

TAKE YOUR BAND
TO THE NEXT LEVEL!

10 PRINTED
T-SHIRTS
FROM
£2.99 +VAT EACH

www.screensprinting.co.uk

*WHEN USING DISCOUNT CODE.
LARGER DISCOUNTS FOR HIGHER QUANTITIES!

USE COUPON CODE KERRANG! FOR AN EXCLUSIVE 25% OFF!

MORE THAN JUST BAND TEES

(But we do still sell the very best band tees around.)

LOUD
LOUDSHOP.COM

SELLING THE BEST TEES, MERCH AND COLLECTABLES FOR OVER 10 YEARS
WWW.LOUDSHOP.COM

THE UNDERWORLD

TWAUDIO

174 CAMDEN HIGH STREET, CAMDEN TOWN, LONDON NW1 · 020 7482 1932 · WWW.THEUNDERWORLDCAMDEN.CO.UK
TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM THE WORLD'S END PUB (NEXT DOOR TO THE UNDERWORLD)
OR BY CC: STARGREEN 020 7734 8932 / WWW.STARGREEN.COM

WED 27 SEP
BRIDEAR + CLOE CORPSE
TICKETS £20.00 ADV / DOORS 19:00

MON 2 OCT
BLESS THE FALL
+ BLOOD YOUTH & CONFESSIONS OF A TRAITOR
TICKETS £15.00 ADV / DOORS 19:00

TUE 3 OCT
ARCHGOAT & BOLZER & SVARTIDAUDI
+ EGGS OF GOMORRH
TICKETS £22.00 ADV / DOORS 19:00

THURS 5 OCT
STRAY FROM THE PATH
+ OBEY THE BRAVE, CAPSIZE & RENOUNCED
TICKETS £15.00 ADV / DOORS 18:00

FRI 6 OCT
IN HEARTS WAKE
+ GIDEON, SILENT SCREAMS & BLACK COAST
TICKETS £12.00 ADV / DOORS 18:00

FRI 20 OCT
GREAT WHITE
PLUS VERY SPECIAL GUEST MARCO MENDOZA & BLACK CAT BONES
TICKETS £25.00 ADV / DOORS 18:00

SAT 21 OCT
OST+FRONT + FLEISCH, MAXDMYZ & AUGER
TICKETS £15.00 ADV / DOORS 18:00

MON 23 OCT
BIG BRAVE + JESSICA MOSS
& VERY SPECIAL GUESTS THE DISCUSSION
FEATURING LAURA FROM KYLESA + IMPURE WILHELMINA
TICKETS £10.00 ADV / DOORS 18:00

TO ADVERTISE IN
KERRANG!
PLEASE CALL
DAISY PERKINS
0207 078 8429

To advertise call: Daisy Perkins on 0207 078 8429 e.mail daisy@wastedtalent.com

NEXT WEEK

ON SALE OCTOBER 04

PHOTO: ANDY FORD

EDITORIAL

WHAT'S THE WEIRDEST DREAM YOU'VE EVER HAD?

ACTING EDITOR: Sam Coare (*True fact, and not just an easy out to avoid me having to answer the question: I never remember my dreams. Sad times*)
ART EDITOR: Steve Beech (*I drove a cow that was a bottomless submarine*)
ASSOCIATE EDITOR (REVIEWS): Nick Ruskell (*When I was 14 I dreamt Coal Chamber came to my school*)
DEPUTY ART EDITOR: Matt Dykzeul (*I often have dreams of having long hair and combing it. Which is weird 'cause I'm bald AF*)
PRODUCTION EDITOR: Emily Carter (*Very recently I went to get some lemon drizzle cake from the fridge, but there were loads of dreadlocks in there that I had to trawl through*)

LISTINGS EDITOR: James Hingle (*Don't remember the dream, but I woke up in my next door neighbour's garden once…*)
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS: Katie Parsons (*That I had an awesome heavy metal beard and spent all day stroking it and pondering the universe*), Jennyfer J. Walker (*The time I was framed for assassinating Green Day, but it turned out that Tyler from State Champs was the killer*)
DIGITAL EDITOR: Bob Foster (*I resit my GCSEs about once a month – it's horrible*)

CONTRIBUTORS: Matt Allen, Steve Beebee, Paul Brannigan, Woody Cecilia, Ryan De Freitas, Hannah Ewens, George Garner, James Hickie, Sam Law, Alistair Lawrence, John Longbottom, James MacKinnon, Jake Richardson, Amit Sharma, Tom Shepherd, Dan Slessor, Mark Sutherland, Olly Thomas, Ben Tipple, Paul Travers, Ian Winwood, Rod Yates, Simon Young, Ray Zell.

PHOTOGRAPHERS: Tom Barnes, David Bergman, Lindsey Byrnes, Chris Casey, Ian Collins, Carrie Davenport, Andy Ford, Andy Gallagher, Paul Harries, Jeremy Harris, Lisa Johnson, Andrew Lipovsky, Ashley Maile, Tom Martin, Martin Philbey, Andrew Timms, Neil Visel, Dave Willis.

SPECIAL THANKS TO: Stu Gameys (*I woke up three times inside my dream and thought I was in a coma*), James Hickie (*After doing my chemistry GCSE, a horse appeared to me in a dream. The only thing it could say was the correct answer to a question I'd got wrong – "Calcium carbonate"*).

KERRANG!
T: 0207 520 8600
E: FEEDBACK@KERRANG.COM
W: KERRANG.COM
Available on the App Store | Google play

SUITS

REALLY IMPORTANT PEOPLE

CEO: Jerry Perkins (jerry@wastedtalent.com)
GLOBAL CREATIVE DIRECTOR: Phil Alexander (phil.alexander@kerrang.com)
M.D.: Nick Stevenson (nick@wastedtalent.com)
FINANCIAL DIRECTOR: David Joseph
DIRECTOR: David Hepworth
CHAIRMAN: Ian Flooks
DISTRIBUTION: Seymour (0207 429 4000)
PRINTING: PCP

ADVERTISING
TELEPHONE: 0207 078 8423
ADVERTISING DIRECTOR: Juliet Cromwell (juliet@wastedtalent.com)
ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER: Owain Harries (owain@wastedtalent.com)
DIGITAL SALES MANAGER: Katie Scrafton (katie@wastedtalent.com)
ADVERTISING PRODUCTION: Daisy Perkins (daisy@wastedtalent.com)

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND BACK ISSUES:
For the latest subscription offers and back issues call 01858 438884
From overseas call (+44) 01858 438884

Kerrang! ISSN 0262-6624 is published 51 times a year by Wasted Talent Ltd, a company registered in England and Wales with company number 4333049.

Kerrang! is published by Wasted Talent Ltd
90 – 92 Pentonville Road, London, N1 9HS.

recycle
When you have finished with this magazine please recycle it.

All views and opinions expressed by our interviewees are those of the artist or band and not necessarily Kerrang!'s.

THE ULTIMATE
ROCKSTAR TEST

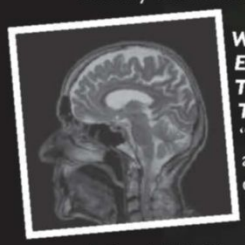
CONOR MASON
NOTHING BUT THIEVES

DOES NOTHING BUT THIEVES' ANGEL-VOICED FRONTMAN HAVE A DEVILISH SIDE? ONLY WHEN HE'S ROBBED OF SLEEP OR DOING BEACH SELFIES...

ON ROCK'N'ROLL...

HAVE YOU EVER THROWN A DIVA STROP?

"I got quite sick last year, which meant I couldn't sleep, so it took a huge toll on me. Plus we were in America on a tin can of a bus, so I got more and more ratty. I wouldn't say it was a diva strop – I'd say it was more like a diva *four months*! I was struggling, and I certainly didn't suffer in silence."



WHAT'S THE MOST EMBARRASSING THING THAT'S EVER HAPPENED TO YOU ONSTAGE?

"I did my first-ever stage-dive at a festival in Bristol. The next day we were in Manchester and I thought, 'Fuck it,' and decided to do it again. I didn't really look before I did it. The first 20 people were younger girls, who I jumped on, and I flattened two of them, smashing my head and back on the floor. I was completely winded for the rest of the show."

EVER SPENT A NIGHT IN A JAIL CELL?

"I've never been in trouble with the law. I'm a super-nice boy who has been brought up properly – mum wouldn't be proud if that happened."

Fun police – pull over!

FAILURES AND F'UPS...

WHAT'S THE WORST PIECE OF COMMUNICATION YOU'VE EVER RECEIVED FROM A FAN?

"There's this sweet but odd guy who baked us all individual cupcakes with our names on them. We were naturally a little bit worried about what was in them. Did we eat them? I ate *everyone's*, as I have a sweet tooth!"

WHAT'S YOUR BIGGEST REGRET AS A MUSICIAN?

"The *band's* biggest regret would definitely be flying with United Airlines. Apart from losing our gear, they just suck in general. Apparently they beat someone up on a flight, too."

We were hoping for tales of brawling bandmates and pooing in pillowcases...

LIFESTYLES OF THE RICH AND FAMOUS...

WHO'S THE COOLEST PERSON THAT'S TOLD YOU THEY LIKE YOUR BAND?

"Simon Neil [of Biffy Clyro]. *He* stopped *me*, which is mental! We were in Madrid, and we were all sat outside. I went in to use the toilet, and I saw Simon in there. He shouted, 'Oi! I love your band.' I think I replied, 'I love you so much,' but it was so mumbled that it just sounded like one word. Then he said, 'Email our team – let's tour together.' He's a god."

WHERE'S THE WEIRDEST PLACE ANYONE'S ASKED YOU FOR AN AUTOGRAPH OR PICTURE?

"We were playing in Spain recently, and we had a beach outside our dressing room, so were able to go in the sea. I didn't have any swimming gear with me, but I thought, 'Fuck it – there's no-one around,' so just went in with my underwear on. As I got out of the sea, a girl comes up to me and asks for a picture. I couldn't refuse, despite being dripping wet and in a pair of pink boxers. I asked if she could crop it, but she didn't seem to give a shit."

Presumably you wanted the pic cropped from the waist up...?

ON THE HYPOTHETICAL...

WHICH WOULD YOU CHOOSE: YOUR ABILITY AS A SINGER OR AS A SONGWRITER?

"I'd have to ask myself what gives me the most pleasure. I could really work on my songwriting – I don't think I'm that great anyway – and work my arse off to get to a good level, but I couldn't regain my voice; it's my gift."

YOU'RE ASKED TO TOUR WITH A BAND THAT ARE NOTHING BUT DOUCHES – WOULD YOU DO IT?

"If AC/DC asked us but I'd heard bad things about them I'd definitely have to say, 'Fuck it,' and do it, as they're childhood heroes. If, however, it was a band on a similar level as us, then I couldn't do it."

Sounds like someone knows how to play the game...

SPIRITUAL HEADMELTER...

IS EVIL SOMETHING YOU ARE, OR SOMETHING YOU DO?

"Something you are. Everyone has a sort of wickedness in them. Some have it worse than others, and some learn to control it."

And you've got too much control over yours, you square...

"I WAS ASKED FOR A PICTURE WHILE IN MY PINK BOXERS"

CONOR MASON

THE VERDICT

CONOR'S GOOD BEHAVIOUR DENTED HIS SCORE, BUT HIS ABILITY TO GET IN AWKWARD SITUATIONS IS COMMENDABLE

SCORE 38%

THE LEADERBOARD

1	**AL JOURGENSEN** MINISTRY	100%
2	**ALICE COOPER**	99%
3	**BEN BRUCE** ASKING ALEXANDRIA	98%
4	**ICE-T** BODY COUNT	96%
5	**AWSTEN KNIGHT** WATERPARKS	96%
6	**ZACKY VENGEANCE** AVENGED SEVENFOLD	95%
7	**AHREN STRINGER** THE AMITY AFFLICTION	95%
8	**RENA LOVELIS** HEY VIOLET	94%
9	**SYNYSTER GATES** AVENGED SEVENFOLD	94%
10	**GREG GRAFFIN** BAD RELIGION	94%
11	**REBA MEYERS** CODE ORANGE	93%
12	**CHRIS ROBERTSON** BLACK STONE CHERRY	52%
13	**CONOR MASON** NOTHING BUT THIEVES	38%
14	**JOHNNY CHRIST** AVENGED SEVENFOLD	31%

WORDS: JAMES HICKIE PHOTO: GOBINDER JHITTA

OUT
29.9.17

2CD/3CD/4LP BOOK
DOWNLOAD
STREAM

NEW, CAREER-SPANNING COLLECTION CELEBRATING
FEEDER'S 21ST ANNIVERSARY (1996-2017)

21 TOP 40 SINGLES, INCLUDING THE HITS:
'JUST THE WAY I'M FEELING', 'BUCK ROGERS', 'JUST A DAY',
'FEELING A MOMENT', 'TUMBLE & FALL', 'SHATTER'

DELUXE & VINYL FORMATS FEATURE NEW ALBUM
'ARROW', CONTAINING 9 NEW STUDIO RECORDINGS

Feeder UK Best Of Tour - March 2018
see **www.listings.ticketmaster.co.uk/feeder** for details

www.feederweb.com

BMG

hmv
in-store | online